



Mir Qasim

INDIAN RECORDS SERIES

GENERAL EDITOR : K. D. BHARGAVA

INDIAN RECORDS SERIES

FORT WILLIAM—INDIA HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE

AND OTHER CONTEMPORARY PAPERS
RELATING THERETO

(PUBLIC SERIES)

VOL. III : 1760-1763

EDITED BY

R. R. SETHI, M.A., Ph.D.

*Professor and Head of the Department of History
Punjab University, Chandigarh*

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GENERAL EDITOR'S PREFACE

The present volume, the third in the *Fort William-India House Correspondence* series, contains the full text of the correspondence which was carried on by the Court of Directors of the East India Company with their Council at Calcutta during the period 1760-63. The documents reproduced are from the so-called Public Series of Bengal General Letters, barring a very few pertaining to the Secret Series which have been included with a view to filling in the gaps in the narrative which the former purport to relate. Together they present a unique documentation on a most exciting period in Indian history—a period which witnessed the last rally of the indigenous political forces in Bengal against a formidable body of foreign intruders whom the events of 1757 had raised to a dominating position in the region. The rally came to a disastrous end, bringing about the complete collapse of the *ancien régime* and paving the way for the final emergence of the British as the foremost political and military power on the subcontinent. On the long-range effects of this upheaval, social, economic, or constitutional, the documents in the present volume hardly throw any light. But all the same they provide indications, howsoever vague, as to the mighty changes which were in the offing.

The editing of the volume was originally assigned to Prof. D. N. Banerjea, but as he found himself unable to discharge the responsibility, a new editor had to be found for the work. Ultimately on the recommendation of the Indian Historical Records Commission the volume was entrusted to Dr. R. R. Sethi, now Professor of History, Panjab University. Dr. Sethi had to start literally from scratch and I am beholden to him not only for the expedition with which he has completed the editing but for the scholarly labour he has brought to bear on the task. I take this opportunity to crave the indulgence of the readers for the unavoidable delay that has occurred in the publication of the volume.

It is my pleasant duty to place on record my indebtedness to Mr. S. C. Sutton of the Commonwealth Office, London, the Director General of Archaeology, Government of India, the Oxford University Press and the editors of *Bengal : Past and Present* whose co-operation has been considerably helpful in illustrating the volume. I must also express my gratitude to the Syndics of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, for supplying for our use a photo-copy of the rare portrait of Henry Vansittart, Senior, available in their collection.

It is needless to mention here my colleagues of the Publication Branch of the Department but for whose able and invaluable assistance the volume could not have come out in its present form.

•
K. D. BHARGAVA
*Director of Archives,
Government of India.*

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CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY*

1760-63

<i>Period</i>	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Deputy Chairman</i>
April 1759-March 1760	Godfrey, Peter	Boyd, John
April 1760-March 1762	Sullivan, Laurence	Rous, Thomas
April 1762-March 1763	Rous, Thomas	Dorrien, John
April 1763-March 1764	Dorrien, John	Sullivan, Laurence

DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY

1760-63

Amyand, George . . .	1760-61, 1763-64.
Baron, Christopher . . .	1759-64, 1766-67.
Barrington, Fitzwilliam . . .	1759-63, 1765-67.
Barwell, William . . .	1753-60, 1761-64, 1766-67.
Bosanquet, Jacob . . .	1759-60.
Boulton, Henry Crabb . . .	1753-62, 1763-65, 1767-70, 1772-73.
Boyd, John . . .	1753-62, 1763-64. Also a member of the Secret Committee.
Browne, John . . .	1757-61, 1762-64.
Burrow, Christopher . . .	1735-58, 1760-61. Also a member of the Secret Committee.
Burrow, Robert . . .	1762-64.
Chambers, Charles . . .	1755-57, 1763-66, 1768-69.
Creed, James . . .	1749, 1755-58, 1761-62.
Cutts, Charles . . .	1749-54, 1758-62, 1763-66. Also a member of the Secret Committee.
Dorrien, John . . .	1755-58, 1760-64. Also a member of the Secret Committee.
Dudley, George . . .	1757-61, 1762-63, 1764-67, 1770-71.
Gildart, Richard . . .	1759-60.
Godfrey, Peter . . .	1710-17, 1734-57, 1759-61. Also a member of the Secret Committee.
Gough, Charles . . .	1749-57, 1759-63. Also a member of the Secret Committee.
Hadley, Henry . . .	1757-61, 1762-66.
Harrison, John . . .	1758-62, 1763-67, 1768-71, 1773-78, 1779-83.

*The particulars given here and in the following lists are based on ; the correspondence contained in this and other volumes of the series; *Alphabetical List of Directors of the East India Company from 1758 to 1858*, compiled by C. H. and D. Philips and published in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, October 1941 and *List of the Heads of Administrations in India and of the India Office in England* (Imperial Record Department, 1939). It may be noted that the Directors were elected annually in April and their year of office was from that month to the following April. In Philips' list Edward Ward is shown as elected in 1762, but he has not signed any letter in this volume.

Harrison, Samuel . . .	1759-60, 1761-63.
Manship, John . . .	1755-58, 1762-66, 1767-68, 1769-72, 1773-78, 1779-83, 1784-88, 1789-93, 1794-98, 1799-1803, 1804-08, 1809-10.
Pigou, Frederick . . .	1758-62, 1763-67, 1768-72, 1773-78.
Purling, John . . .	1763-67, 1768-72, 1777-81.
Raymond, John . . .	1757-61.
Rooke, Giles . . .	1758-62, 1763-65.
Rous, Thomas . . .	1745-53, 1755-56, 1757-59, 1760-63, 1764-68, 1770-71. Also a member, of the Secret Committee.
Savage, Henry . . .	1755-59, 1760-63, 1764-68, 1770-78 1779-82.
Seward, Richard . . .	1759-60, 1761-63.
Smith, Richard . . .	1759-63, 1764-65.
Snell, William . . .	1762-65, 1767-70.
Steevens, George . . .	1757-61, 1762-63.
Sullivan, Laurence . . .	1755-68, 1760-62, 1763-65, 1769-70 1771-73, 1778-82, 1783-85. Also a member of the Secret Committee.
Thornton, William . . .	1759-60, 1761-65.
Tullie, Timothy . . .	1750-59, 1760-64. Also a member of the Secret Committee.
Walton, Bouchier . . .	1759-63.
Warner, Richard . . .	1760-64.
Waters, Thomas . . .	1759-63.
Webber, William . . .	1762-66.

GOVERNORS OF THE PRESIDENCY OF FORT WILLIAM, BENGAL 1760-63

Clive, Colonel Robert . . .	27 June 1758—23 January 1760.
Holwell, John Zephaniah . . .	24 January 1760—26 July 1760.
Vansittart, Henry . . .	27 July 1760—2 December 1764.

MEMBERS OF BOARD, FORT WILLIAM, BENGAL*

1760-63

Amyatt, Peter . . .	1756-63. Also a member of the Select Committee.
Batson, Stanlake . . .	1759-64.

*The years mentioned against the names of the members do not necessarily cover the entire tenure of their membership. Besides these members, Maj. Gen. Stringer Lawrence was also a member of the Board and the Select Committee when present in Bengal. Lt. Col. Caillaud had a seat at the Select Committee as C.-in-C. in Coote's absence. On the commencement of hostilities with Mir Qasim Maj. Thomas Adams was co-opted as a member of the Board. The Court of Directors had also appointed Capt. James Barton as a member of the Board and the Select Committee and Luke Scrafton as a member of the Board unaware of the former's death in July 1759 and the latter's departure for Europe before 1760.

Billers, William	. . .	1759-65.
Burdett, John	. . .	1763-65.
Carnac, Maj. John	. . .	1760-67 (for military affairs only). Also a member of the Select Committee.
Cartier, John	. . .	1761-72.
Clive, Lt. Col. Robert	. . .	1757-60, 1765-67. Also a member of the Select Committee.
Coote, Lt. Col. Eyre	. . .	1761-62 (for military affairs only). Also a member of the Select Committee.
Ellis, William	. . .	1760-63. Also a member of the Select Committee.
Hastings, Warren	. . .	1761-64, 1772-85.
Hay, William	. . .	1761-63.
Holwell, John Zephaniah	. . .	1752-60. Dismissed.
Johnstone, John	. . .	1761-65.
McGwire, William	. . .	1759-63. Dismissed but reinstated. Also a member of the Select Committee.
Marriott, Randolph	. . .	1763-66.
Playdell, Charles Stafford	. . .	1758-61, 1763-66. Dismissed but re- appointed.
Smith, Culling	. . .	1759-62.
Smyth, Harry	. . .	1759-61.
Sumner, William Brightwell	. . .	1757-61, 1765-66. Dismissed but re- instated. Also a member of the Select Committee.
Vansittart, Henry	. . .	1760-64. Also a member of the Select Committee.
Verelst, Harry	. . .	1759-69.
Waller, Samuel	. . .	1760-61.
Watts, Hugh	. . .	1762-66.

GOVERNORS OF THE PRESIDENCY OF FORT ST. GEORGE

1760-63

Pigot, George	. . .	14 January 1755—14 November 1763. (later Baron Pigot of Patshull)
Palk, Robert	. . .	14 November 1763—25 January 1767. (later Sir R. Palk, Bart)

GOVERNORS OF THE PRESIDENCY OF BOMBAY

1760-63

Bourchier, Richard	. . .	17 November 1750—28 February 1760.
Crommelin, Charles	. . .	28 February 1760—27 January 1767.

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

A careful study of the correspondence between the Court of Directors of the English East India Company on the one hand and the President and his Council at Fort William on the other, for the four year period extending from January 1760 to December 1763, throws valuable sidelights on an important chapter of Indian history, and reveals certain facts and facets of considerable historical interest. It will, therefore, be useful to present the most important of these in this Introduction.

The first matter to which reference may here be made is the relations of the English East India Company with the Nawabs or Subahdars of Bengal.

After the Battle of Plassey in 1757, Clive had set up Mir Jafar, brother-in-law of Alivardi Khan, on the vacant *masnad* of Murshidabad, but the supplanters of the defeated and murdered Sirajud-Daulah, who had been grossly misinformed as to the contents of the provincial treasury, were grievously disappointed to find there about twenty-fifth part of the expected treasure, *viz.* £1,500,000 only. The English, in their negotiations before Plassey with the disaffected and rebellious nobles, through the wealthy Indian banker Aminchand, had stipulated for a sum of nearly 2½million pounds sterling, including large gratuities to the members of the Calcutta Council, for "supporting the plot against the ruler who was legally the ally of the Company". There was not money enough in the Murshidabad coffers to meet more than a half of this demand. Yet on this discovery no remission of any kind was made. The Company insisted on getting its "pound of flesh". Mir Jafar was consequently obliged to make assignments on his revenue and pledge his credit for years to come, with the result that the whole administration of the province was crippled and could not be carried on properly. The English had become the tutelary deities of the titular Nawab. They wielded the substance of power, while Mir Jafar enjoyed the shadow of it.

Matters headed towards a crisis by the year 1760. Mir Jafar's government seemed irremediably deplorable. Feeble, infirm, and impotent, it was visibly on its last legs. The Nawab had abandoned state affairs totally to the hands of his Ministers, a body of men completely irresponsible and corrupt. Payments to the army had long fallen into arrears, and the rebellious and discontented soldiery constituted a standing menace. For safeguarding the Nawab's person and administration, and to maintain the influence the Company was exercising, it was deemed highly desirable either to set up some power in counterpoise to that of the Ministers, or to displace them. About this time, on July 1, 1760, Mir Jafar's son, Miran (also called the "Chhota Nawab") was killed in his tent by a flash of lightning.¹ Miran's death under the circumstances was a bolt from the blue for Mir Jafar, and he was so afflicted with

1. P. 272. This page and the pages cited hereafter refer to those of the text.

grief that he was bereft of reason for a time. The calamity, moreover, caused a great vacuum in the administration of which the young prince had been the mainstay; therefore, after the tragic death of his son, Mir Jafar's incompetence and effete-ness became exposed to full view. The Nawab had had only that one lawful son. His two illegitimate sons were of tender years, and could not be expected to carry on the administration of the province at so important and fateful a juncture. Now was the chance for Mir Qasim, the son-in-law of Mir Jafar, to make a bid for the throne. This young scion of nobility was one for whom the highest officials at Fort William entertained respect. He had shown firm attachment to the Company and had considerable influence with the notables of the province. There were not wanting jealous persons to poison the mind of Mir Jafar against his own son-in-law. Mir Jafar was in consequence wavering in his mind as to the person whom he should nominate his successor. Knowing this Mir Qasim approached Henry Vansittart, the President of the Board of Fort William, for assistance in securing the gaddi of Bengal. Keeping in view the stern necessities of public affairs, and the advantages expected to accrue to the Company from the accession of Mir Qasim, it was decided to instal him on the *masnad* of Bengal.² The Calcutta Council, with a rather cynical opportunism, set aside Miran's infant son, Mir Saidu, who had been named the heir-apparent with Raj Bal-labh as his *Diwan*.³

Treaty with Mir Qasim (1760)

The treaty between the East India Company and Mir Qasim was discussed and concluded entirely by the Select Committee, and kept a secret from the other members of the Council until it was executed *in toto*. A veil of secrecy cloaked the negotiations throughout because of their extremely delicate character. The document was placed before the Council only after it had been executed.⁴ As a consequence of this compact, Mir Jafar had to vacate his throne in favour of his son-in-law and retire to Calcutta. This displacement was effected without any disturbance whatever, not a man was hurt, not a shot fired. The *ci-devant* Nawab was received at Calcutta with all due honours and dignities,⁵ and he continued to reside there till his re-installation (in July, 1763) as the Nawab. The usurper of his throne grudgingly provided him with a pension of Rs. 10,000 per month.⁶

The East India Company gained substantial advantages by the transfer of the titular sovereignty to Mir Qasim. The latter ratified the treaty formerly existing between his predecessor and the Company, and undertook to

2. Pp. 291-2. Also *Siyar-ul Mutakh-Khirin* (Lucknow edition, p. 691) quoted by Nandalal Chatterjee, *Mir Qasim*, p. 15.

3. Letter from Sykes, dated Cassimbazar, August 8, 1760; Bengal Select Committee Proceedings dated August 11, 1760.

4. P. 309.

5. P. 278.

6. Chatterjee, *op. cit.*, p. 46; *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. I, pp. 138, 140 and 142.

pay off the outstanding debts of the ex-Nawab to the Company. He ceded to the latter in fee-simple the districts of Bardwan, Midnapore and Chittagong, valuable territory to the west, north-west and east of Calcutta. The Company was to administer the newly acquired districts in any way it deemed most desirable. The new ruler in addition granted his benefactors half the *chunam* to be produced at Sylhet for three years to come, on payment at its prime cost. He engaged to make a free will offering of half a million rupees, to be sent to the Presidency of Madras for the prosecution of the war against the French in the South. He further pledged to reissue the order of the previous administration for the currency of the Calcutta *sikkas*.⁷ (coins). It is thus abundantly clear that the Company gained substantially by this transaction. The Court of Directors commended the action of President Vansittart in bringing about this great change in the administration, and for securing these advantages for the Company.⁸

Peter Amyatt, William Ellis, and Harry Smyth (members of the Council) on the other hand, disapproved of the change in the government, and found fault with Vansittart for having been instrumental in effecting it.⁹ The President referred to their criticism in the following terms : "I know however that there are many who led some by ignorance but more by prejudice strive to overlook the necessity of the Resolutions taken; the manner and Circumstances of their Execution, and the Advantages procured for the Company, and endeavour to represent the measures as a premeditated Breach of treaties and the consequences as hurtful to the Company, insinuating always that the Select Committee who unanimously resolved on this plan, and particularly myself had interested Views." Vansittart appealed to the Court of Directors to defend him against all unjust aspersions. "Nor do I expect or desire this until you are convinced yourselves of my having sought with Diligence and disinterestedness the Welfare of this Country and the prosperity of the Company."¹⁰

Dispute with Mir Qasim

Things proceeded smoothly for some time during which Mir Qasim honestly did his best to put the affairs of the province on a sound footing and to meet his engagements with the English, but certain causes soon cropped up to produce strained relations between the contracting parties. One of them was the disputes, complaints and remonstrances at Patna between Maj. Carnac (the Company's new representative) and the Nawab, and later between Carnac's successor Col. Coote and the Nawab, in regard to Ram Narayan, the *Naiib* of Bihar. These conflicts had sharp repercussions in the shape of acute differences of opinion in the Council. None of its members troubled himself about the merits of the case or even about the higher interests of his own native country; all merely indulged in recriminations against one another.

7. P. 270.

8. P. 106.

9. P. 324.

10. P. 278.

The Nawab had one more cause of uneasiness in the refuge afforded by the Company to Ram Narayan. Also he was told by interested persons that the Company aimed at securing for themselves the *Diwani* of the province of Bengal.¹¹ But the most important cause of conflict was the question of trade privileges. The Nawab, by one of the stipulations in the treaty, had agreed to charge no transit duty on the inland trade the English were allowed to carry on in Bengal. But many unfortunate abuses had crept into this arrangement. Young writers, far too junior in the Company's service, began to participate in the inland trade with the assistance of their Indian agents or banyas. Large fortunes were thus made by them through the use of *dastaks*.¹²

To take up the vexed matter of internal trade: the English had, in 1717, obtained from the Mughal Emperor, Farrukhsiyar, "the right of conducting export trade free of duty" which they had ever since enjoyed. This privilege had, however, been given only in respect of goods sent into, or exported out of Bengal *by sea*. But subsequently (1757 onwards), the East India Company's employees began to put forward the false and totally unjustifiable pretension that the personal trade in articles such as salt, tobacco and betel-nut within the province, which they were engaged in for private gain, should be similarly favoured, though Indian traders had to bear the full burden of the duties. Armed with this unjust privilege, the foreigners could easily attract a steadily increasing share of the trade, either directly or through their Indian agents (*gumashtas*). More indefensible still, a number of the Company's men sometimes even farmed out to indigenous traders having no connection with the Company, the passes granted by the Company.¹³ Thus, on the one hand, the British exacted from the Indian potentate (Mir Qasim) heavy sums for the maintenance of their troops that defended his territories, while on the other hand, their actions went far to diminish the yield of the customs which formed the mainstay of that ruler's revenues, and by unjust trade rivalry to impoverish precisely those sections of the population from which the taxes used to be derived in normal times.

The Nawab found himself unable to carry on the government of the Province with so greatly diminished revenues, and naturally exerted himself to secure a cessation of this iniquitous state of affairs. In vain did he try to reason with his oppressors.¹⁴ When his dignified and just remonstrances repeatedly failed to have any effect, his annoyance inevitably grew more acute and manifest. Things at last reached such a pass that the Nawab, in despair, decided to abolish customs dues on internal trade altogether, thus cutting the ground from under the feet of the English, and putting his own subjects on a level with them. But this desperate remedy displeased the latter, as the measure deprived them in Bengal of the benefits they had so long derived from their position of privilege.

11. P. 365.

12. P. 168.

13. Letter dated December 15, 1762 from Vansittart and Warren Hastings to the Council. Reproduced in Vansittart's *Narrative of the Transactions in Bengal*, Vol. II, pp. 150-5.

14. Pp. 473-4.

A point that merits attention is that the Court of Directors felt that the Nawab was being unjustly deprived of his revenues by the actions of their Bengal employees. Vansittart was accordingly instructed by them to give the Nawab full assurance that the Company stood for his welfare and prosperity. The Directors further found fault with the conduct of William Ellis, the Chief of the factory at Patna, who had undisguisedly tried to disparage Mir Qasim. Their severe displeasure at the constant bickerings of this officer with the Nawab led them to direct Vansittart to dispense with his services in Bengal and transfer him to Bombay.¹⁵

Warren Hastings Deputed to Mir Qasim

In order to secure the resumption of friendly relations with the Nawab, and to dispel from his mind groundless apprehensions, the Fort William functionaries resolved to depute Warren Hastings to Mir Qasim who was then at Patna. He was to assure the Nawab of the Company's friendliness towards him, and incidentally to urge him not to lend ear or give credence to the insinuations and reports of interested parties against the English officials. The ruler was to be pressed to punish severely all those trying to create bad blood between him and the Company. One of the members of the Council, viz. Peter Amyatt, proposed that Hastings should be asked to demand from the Nawab the sum of twenty lakhs of rupees which the latter had offered to the members of the Select Committee at Calcutta as a present. In spite of Maj. Carnac, John Johnstone and William Hay joining Amyatt in this demand, Vansittart, the President, opposed the suggestion. His standpoint was that the Select Committee having unconditionally rejected the offer, neither the Company nor any individual could prefer any just claim upon the Nawab for the said sum.¹⁶ The Directors of the Company fully agreed with this view of Vansittart, and wrote : "...we cannot comprehend upon what ground the majority of the Council, contrary to the recommendations made by the President against it, could venture to authorize Mr. Hastings to demand of the Nabob in our name 20 lacs of rupees upon the bare pretence that he had made an offer of that sum to Mr. Vansittart and the Select Committee at the time of making the treaty for his accession and which had been then so properly and so honourably refused. We rejoice at the just and spirited refusal he gave to that unwarrantable demand."¹⁷ Hastings' mission to the Nawab did not in any way improve matters.

Vansittart's Mission to Mir Qasim

President Vansittart on a visit to the Nawab at Monghyr drew the attention of the latter to many complaints made by the factories of Chittagong, Dacca, and Lakshmipur regarding the stoppage of their boats at different *chaukies*. Mir Qasim in return brought to the notice of the President the

15. Pp. 223-4.

16. P. 421.

17. P. 223.

complaints from his officials in different parts of the province against the Company's *gumastās*, specially those at Rangpur, Sylhet, and Rangamati. These *gumastās* were employed chiefly in the trade of salt, tobacco and betel-nut. The Nawab further protested against his loss of income, brought about by the action of these underlings. Vansittart and Hastings put forward to the Nawab a number of proposals to regulate the inland trade and to impose certain restrictions on the servants of the Nawab and on the Company's *gumastās*. Finally, it was agreed that the English should pay duties at 9 per cent on their internal trade and should refrain from issuing *dastaks*, subject to the approval of the Calcutta Council.¹⁸ Vansittart plainly told Mir Qasim that no restrictions should be placed on the English trade so long as another agreement was not *finally* concluded between the parties,¹⁹ but the Nawab by a fatal error began to act on the terms agreed upon with the President at once, thinking that the latter's consent was all-sufficient.

The Nawab closed and stockaded one of the gates of Patna city close to the English factory, and ran an entrenchment into the river Ganges there thus preventing the tracking of the boats on the side of the English factory.²⁰

The Calcutta Council discussed the question of inland trade *vis-a-vis* the Nawab, and disowned the action of their President in entering into an agreement with the Nawab in respect of internal trade, holding the view that, according to the *farmans*, treaties, and *hasbulhukms*, the English had an absolute right to carry on foreign as well as inland trade in the province of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa by means of *dastaks*, free of all kinds of duty or customs, except for a tax of 2½ per cent on the *rawana* or Hooghly market price of salt.²¹ It was further resolved that the English agents should be liable to English control only. It is noteworthy that the Council by passing these resolutions was prepared to involve the province in a tangle, and even to risk its loss, on an issue in which the Company, as distinct from its servants, had no interest at all.

Now ensued an unedifying spectacle. The Council and the Nawab vied with one another in pouring indiscriminate abuse on the other party, and in complaining of each other's actions. The Nawab took his stand on the agreement entered into with the President, and the Council on their latest decision; and these opposing points of view generated endless acrimony between them.

Some members of the Fort William Council and a couple of other servants of the Company complained against the Nawab's *Faujdar* at Rangamati and it was decided by the Board to capture the said official and to bring him to Calcutta. A similar complaint coming in from Lakshmipur led to orders

18. Vansittart, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 163.

19. Pp. 473-4.

20. Pp. 481-2.

21. P. 482.

for the capture of Sayyid Badal Khan, Qamar Ali, and Aqa Muhammad Nizam. These officers had been working under Muhammad Ali Beg, the Nawab's officer for the district of Dacca.²²

Vansittart wrote repeatedly to the Nawab informing him that the trade regulations which had been proposed could not be enforced. The resolutions of the Board with regard to the Barhanna gate at Patna were also communicated to him. The President further forwarded the complaints he had received against the Nawab's employees from different places in the province and demanded ample reparation.²³

Mission of Amyatt and Hay

The Calcutta authorities resolved to send Peter Amyatt and William Hay, members of the Board, to the Nawab to explain fully to him the Company's point of view, and reach an agreement with him regarding the rules for levying custom duty on salt. The Nawab was informed of the dispatch of this mission. The letter to him mentioned that while the East India Company would gladly scrutinize any complaints received against English agents or *gumashtas*, and would cause them to make amends for whatever unjust acts had been committed by them, the Nawab too, on his part, was to take similar action against those officers of his who had committed acts of obstruction and extortion.²⁴ The English officials of Fort William had a letter from Patna to the effect that the Nawab had issued orders to the former's *gumashtas* engaged in supplying opium in Bihar to pay duty on that commodity. Inquiries were made of the *Naib* of Patna, Raja Naubat Rai, about this allegation. On receipt of his reply, it was decided that the President should write to the Nawab, demanding a clear and prompt answer as to whether the latter was prepared to rescind his previous orders, and to allow English trade to continue without let or hindrance, as before. It was further decided to warn the Nawab that if the latter refused or neglected to give a satisfactory reply a rupture between the two parties would be inevitable.²⁵

The President now received two letters from the Nawab. These communications contained complaints against Ellis, and representations in respect of the losses suffered by the ruler because of the disturbances in the Province. While answering them the Nawab was assured that so long as he did not act to the prejudice of the English trade, or permit his officials to do so, his government would be safe, and that the Company would always be ready to help him to maintain all his rights.²⁶

Meanwhile the Board learnt through letters from Patna that the Nawab had exempted the entire trade, the Company's as well as the Indian merchants' from duties of every kind and had asked Raja Naubat Rai to comply with

22. *Ibid.*

23. Pp. 483-4.

24. P.

25. P.

26.

those orders strictly. When the Board took up this matter for deliberation the majority in the Board held the view that the Nawab, as Subahdar, had exceeded his lawful powers in the action he had taken; his only object could have been to injure the Company's interests. Therefore, it was resolved upon to add a paragraph supplementing the instructions of Amyatt and Hay directing them to represent the matter to the Nawab, and to insist upon revocation of his recent orders and collection of the custom duties as before.²⁷

At this time, fresh letters from Mir Qasim arrived, complaining against Ellis for having captured the *Faujdar's Naib* (Deputy) at Tajpur for interrupting the saltpetre investment. Mir Qasim also protested against the seizure by the English of some of his officials in Dacca district.²⁸

The Company in reply assured the Nawab of complete non-interference with his officers on condition that the latter too did not obstruct English traders and their agents. It went on to remind the Nawab that the Company had to rely upon its own force to protect its trade only after discovering that it was futile to depend upon the Nawab's government for that purpose. He was also warned that though the English were determined to uphold him and his government in all his rights, yet if he opposed them or their agents when carrying out their orders, such action on his part would be tantamount to an open declaration of war, and would be dealt with as such. He was also intimated that the Company would send Amyatt and Hay to him in order to settle all outstanding questions with him.²⁹

News came to Fort William at this time of an attack on the sepoys in charge of the saltpetre investment by a detachment of the Nawab's troops. The latter had killed four and wounded three of the guards and taken away the others as captives. Since the Nawab had afterwards released them the Company decided not to proceed in the matter.³⁰

It was also resolved to issue directions to Amyatt and Hay, to inquire of the Nawab as to whether any private compact existed between him and the President, providing for the exemption of the latter's goods from payment of the 9% *ad valorem* duty as laid down by earlier regulations.³¹ It is clear from his resolution of the Council that its members did not hesitate even to prefer charges of underhand dealings against their own President.

The despatch of the two agents to the Nawab had been held up awaiting the latter's reply; when this was received, it did not appear helpful. The Nawab expressed inability to receive the deputation, contending that

27. P. 487.

28. *Ibid.*

29. *Ibid.*

30. P. 487-8.

31. P. 488.

as he had already repealed all the duties, any further conference on the matter was quite unnecessary and uncalled for. He also rejected the English demand for compensation for the losses suffered by them.³²

Another meeting of the Board took place and it was resolved by the majority that one more communication should be sent to the Nawab insisting that he must receive Amyatt and Hay.³³ President Vansittart therefore wrote to Mir Qasim to that effect, at the same time pointing out the undesirable tone of the latter's communications and the general impropriety of his conduct and adding that the consequence of it could only be a rupture between the parties.³⁴

Importance of Amyatt and Hay's Mission

An effort was made in that letter to demonstrate the sincerity of English intentions towards the Nawab. An assurance was given that it was only in order to terminate the unhappy state of relations and to settle outstanding differences that the delegation was going to him. That mission should be regarded "as the Strongest Mark of our Friendship and Compliment paid him; And that it therefore behoved him to write us immediately that he would receive the Deputation in a suitable Manner to treat upon Business. That if he refused so reasonable a Demand, it would not be in our Power to remove the Suspicions & Jealousies which he harboured in his Mind; And as the Alarms in all parts of the Country must be attended with very great Loss and Detriment both to his Affairs and the Company's that a Breach of the Friendship between us would infallibly ensue [ensue]. That We once more assured him of our Hearty Resolution to support and assist him in every Branch of his Government but that if he refused to receive the Present Deputation, it would be regarded in no other light than a Declaration on his side of his Intention to come to a Rupture with us."³⁵

In a separate letter to the Court of Directors, dated May 20, 1763, President Vansittart expressed the hope that the differences between the Company and the Nawab would be amicably removed as a result of Amyatt and Hay's mission. He felt that the Nawab would "acquiesce in everything Messrs Amyatt and Hay have to propose to him from the Board. Indeed he has no remedy, for his ruin would be inevitable if he was to come to a Rupture with us." ³⁶

It may here be pointed out that in most of the decisions of the Board in regard to dealings with Mir Qasim there existed sharp differences of opinion among its members. The decisions, therefore, were generally only majority decisions; several members nearly always dissented as to many important

32. Pp. 488-9.

33. P. 489.

34. *Ibid.*

35. *Ibid.*

36. P. 507.

details. In the scrupulous debates that preceded these decisions mutual regard was sometimes quite forgotten. However, the beginning of hostilities between the Company and Mir Qasim put an end to all those differences, and made all the members zealously and fully co-operate with one another.³⁷

Amyatt and Hay at Monghyr

To turn back to the story of the mission, the two delegates first of all reached Murshidabad and left that city on April 24, 1763. They reached Monghyr on May 12, without encountering any serious difficulties. From their experience at their first meeting with the Nawab, it seemed that the differences which formed the subject of the negotiations could be adjusted amicably. Amyatt and Hay then presented to the Nawab a complete copy of the instructions they had received from their principals at Fort William; for some time they awaited the Nawab's reply. When that communication was received, it was found that the Nawab had done nothing more than refer to the unreasonableness of the English demands. He had also reiterated his old contention that there was no room left for any disputes since all duties had already been abolished.³⁸

The next event in the fateful story was the detention by the Nawab's officers at Monghyr of 500 stands of arms being sent to Patna. Amyatt requested the Nawab to release them, but his efforts proved of no avail. So he felt that it was futile and improper for him and his colleague to prolong their stay at Monghyr and he informed the Fort William authorities to that effect.³⁹

The Nawab told Amyatt plainly that he would not comply with any of the English demands or release the arms unless the British troops daily creating trouble at Patna were recalled to Monghyr. Mir Qasim also asked Amyatt to wait for some time for orders from Calcutta.⁴⁰

Formerly, there used to be mutual courtesy whenever Amyatt and Hay met the Nawab, but now these gentlemen were treated in a scurvy and discouraging manner, and had to put up with intolerable treatment.⁴¹

Case of Jagat Seths

While Amyatt and Hay were at Murshidabad the Nawab had seized Jagat Seth and his brother, and carried them off as prisoners to Monghyr. The reason given for the maltreatment of these magnates was their alleged connection and friendship with the English. The President of the Board as well as Amyatt requested the Nawab for their release. Mir Qasim wrote back

37. P. 513.

38. P. 516.

39. *Ibid.*

40. *Ibid.*

41. Pp. 517-8.

that he meant no harm to the Jagat Seths and that they were being kept at Monghyr only on account of the custom of the country that they should live wherever he himself lived.⁴²

Many complaints were received of the Nawab's officials impeding the English trade in opium and saltpetre at Patna, and small parties of the Company's troops were twice involved in skirmishes with some of the Nawab's sepoys.⁴³

War Preparations

As the situation continued steadily to deteriorate, it was thought desirable to draw up in advance a plan of operations in the event of hostilities breaking out with the Nawab. Directions, therefore, went out to the Chief and Council at Patna that in case of a declaration of war they were to attack and possess themselves of that city, if they regarded themselves equal to that task. But if they thought themselves unable to do so, they were to choose a suitable position for defence. Troops would be rushed to Patna, if required, to reinforce the English there. However, the officials at Patna were enjoined to act with circumspection. At that time the garrison there comprised 220 European foot-soldiers, 57 artillery-men, and 2709 sepoys, besides 27 commissioned officers.⁴⁴

Such being the situation, the Board held a meeting at Calcutta to decide upon and plan a course of action. It was resolved that the Company should in no case agree to the demand for the withdrawal of their troops from Patna, whether the Nawab did or did not comply with the English demands. In case the Nawab insisted on his demand, Amyatt and Hay were to return to Calcutta forthwith, even without obtaining leave of the Nawab, for the sake of their safety. Vansittart, it is worthy of note, differed from these resolutions in certain particulars.⁴⁵ The Board considered his views and then decided to instruct their delegates that in case the arms seized by Mir Qasim were released they should try to reassure him that the troops at Patna were there only for the good of the Nawab and for no other purpose. The Company was also prepared to send Muhammad Ali (*Faujdar* of Dacca), and the other officers of the Nawab held in detention at Calcutta, on condition that their master was to inquire into their offences.⁴⁶

The subsequent correspondence reveals that the Nawab had practically no confidence left in the Company. War was regarded as unavoidable by Amyatt and Hay. Reports came from Patna that attempts were being made to thin the ranks of the Company's sepoys by undermining their loyalty.

42. Pp. 516-7.

43. P. 517.

44. *Ibid.*

45. P. 518.

46. Pp. 518-9.

We learn that between 1 June and 6 June (1763), there were about two hundred such defections. Ellis, Chief of Patna factory, had to take measures to prevent the desertions assuming more serious proportions.⁴⁷

By now, it had become amply evident that the Nawab had determined on a breach with the Company; so it was considered necessary to decide as to where the Company's troops were to be posted. It was also to be decided as to who was to be installed as the new Nawab in place of Mir Qasim, and how the expenses of the war and the consequent losses to private individuals were to be met.⁴⁸

Mir Qasim meantime repeated his complaints against Ellis, and reiterated the demand for the recall of the Company's troops from Patna. The Nawab regarded Ellis as his deadly enemy, and wanted the Company to replace him by any other person. He expressed his willingness to allow Amyatt to return to Calcutta. But he insisted on keeping Hay as a hostage for Muhammad Ali and other prisoners with the English.

News was now received from Johnstone, who was at Burdwan, that large bodies of the Nawab's sepoys were proceeding from Murshidabad towards the frontier of Burdwan. Reports were also received from Cossimbazar that the Company's *dak qasids* (carriers of post) had been expelled from their stations and consequently all correspondence had ceased. Information was also received that hostilities had actually commenced at Patna.⁴⁹

Treaty with Mir Jafar (1763)

The Fort William Board now took up for discussion the new arrangements to be entered into for placing another ruler as the subahdar of Bengal in place of Mir Qasim. President Vansittart, however, declined to give any opinion, declaring that it was his intention to quit the chair as soon as the war was brought to a successful close and that he therefore "left it to the other Members on whom would rest the future management of Affairs, to determine in this Point".⁵⁰ As the matter was naturally regarded as a very important one, it was considered whether it was advisable to postpone discussion of it till Amyatt returned. However, as the situation was growing from bad to worse every day, and there was no certainty regarding Amyatt's arrival, it was resolved by the Board, Vansittart and Warren Hastings remaining neutral, that Mir Jafar should be brought back to the throne in place of Mir Qasim. A treaty for this purpose was to be concluded by the Company with Mir Jafar and an *ad hoc* committee of the Board was to deal with this matter, while a set of articles embodying the blue-print of the document to be executed, was put into writing, amended, and approved. The Board appointed a deputation to wait upon Mir Jafar and to acquaint him with the resolution

47. P. 519.

48. *Ibid.*

49. Pp 520-1.

50. P. 521.

passed in his favour. After some *pourparlers*, the ex-Nawab agreed to assume the government and to execute the desired treaty as soon as its provisions had received their final retouching. On 7 July 1763, war was declared against Mir Qasim, and Mir Jafar was declared as the new Nawab. The proclamation was publicly read out on the next day and the treaty with the restored ruler was signed two days later (10 July), its most important article providing for unhampered trade in the country, free of custom duties, in all commodities (with the single exception of salt, on which the Company agreed to pay $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ to the Nawab). The *roi fainéant* agreed to pay to the Company three million rupees for expenses and making up the losses caused by the war with Mir Qasim. Further he agreed to indemnify the war losses of all private merchants living under English protection. It is worthy of mention that when the provisions of the treaty were first put up before the Board, President Vansittart and Warren Hastings declared their unwillingness to be parties to any treaty with the new ruler. When, however, the proclamation and the treaty were subsequently put up for signature, they rescinded their decision, feeling that the public interest called for a united front against the enemy (Mir Qasim). Vansittart thought that such unanimity would also appeal better to Mir Jafar. Small surprise then that the two dissidents came round to sign the proclamation and the other public documents. All this over, Mir Jafar joined the British troops moving against the deposed Nawab.⁵¹

Fate of Amyatt

We may now revert to the story of the mission of Amyatt and Hay. As Amyatt found that nothing worthwhile could be achieved by extending his stay, he took leave of the Nawab on 24 June 1763, and obtained the usual pass for his journey. He and his party started for Calcutta by boats and proceeded to Cossimbazar, Hay having been detained by Mir Qasim. On 3 July, when the boats conveying the party were passing Murshidabad, they were fired upon by some sepoys massed for that purpose on both banks of the Cossimbazar river (i.e. the Bhagirathi). Some of the party were killed in the firing. Amyatt immediately came out of his boat and landing with a few Indian soldiers, ordered the Nawab's sepoys not to fire, trying to make them realize that he was in possession of a pass from the Nawab, and had no hostile intentions whatever. As ill-luck would have it, at this moment a horse advanced and some of the sepoys fired. This immediately led to a *mêlée* in which Amyatt, with most of his companions, was hacked to pieces. The few survivors were taken captive and carried to Monghyr.⁵²

Garrison at Patna

The officials at Fort William were full of anxiety as to what might have happened to the garrison at Patna, as mutually contradictory reports had come in as regards its fate. The insolent letter of Mir Qasim added to the Board's misgivings and anxieties. The truth was at last brought to them in a

51. Pp. 521-2 and 525-6.

52. Pp. 522-3.

letter from Capt. George Wilson, dated 27 July 1763. This correspondent had been on the scene of the occurrence. The letter said that Ellis and his Council, having decided to take the city of Patna on 25 June, had in fact carried out their decision on the morning of the date specified. When the English had secured possession of the city, most of its inhabitants, headed by the native Governor, had fled in panic. But they had later decided to come back to recapture the city, and had succeeded in getting the better of the British garrison, mainly because, after the capture of the city, the Company's soldiers, both European and Indian, had indulged in looting and robbing. As they could not be reassembled at short notice, they were worsted. This discomfiture led to a large number of defections from the ranks of the Company's Indian sepoys. It was then decided to proceed to the territories of Shujaud-Daulah, and the river was crossed on 26 June. Up to Chhapra, no obstruction was encountered. But on the last day of the month, the *Faujdar* with about 2000 men attacked the Company's troops, and was defeated. Receiving fresh reinforcements from Bhojpur the enemy next day repeated his attack more successfully, killing about fifty Europeans, among whom was Capt. Carstairs. A day after this battle, *viz.* on 2 July, Ellis, along with some officers and privates, was taken captive and carried to Monghyr.⁵³

Factory at Cossimbazar

We may now turn our attention to events at the Cossimbazar factory. It was besieged by the Nawab's troops. As the ten inmates found themselves unable to hold out, they decided on 5 July to retreat to the Dutch factory at Kalkapur. The *Naib* of Murshidabad demanded from the Dutch the surrender of the refugees, and they agreed to give them up. They were made prisoners and sent to the Nawab at Monghyr.⁵⁴

Factory at Dacca

The Nawab's soldiers also attacked the English factory at Dacca, which however, was successfully defended and the attackers had to withdraw, sustaining some losses. But the defenders, finding that they had exhausted their ammunition, felt that they would not succeed in warding off a second attack. Therefore, they withdrew to Lakshmipur on 7 July, and sent word to Fort William of their withdrawal. On receiving this intimation, the officials at Fort William sent orders to the factories at Lakshmipur and Chittagong to assemble a force along with the Manipur detachment, to proceed to recapture the factory at Dacca, and also to occupy and hold that city on behalf of the new Nawab. Capt. Grant of Chittagong left that place and proceeded to Lakshmipur whence, joined by the Manipur detachment, he arrived at the Dacca factory on 17 July, and captured the city and fort of Dacca. It may be mentioned that when the English had withdrawn from that factory, Rs. 45,000/- had been left behind in that establishment.⁵⁵

53. P. 523.

54. P. 524.

55. Pp. 524-5.

Battle of Katwa

By now, the British forces, commanded by Maj. Adams, had also been joined by Mir Jafar on their way to Murshidabad. The first engagement took place on 19 July, opposite Katwa, a place on the Cossimbazar side of the river within 15 miles of Plassey. Adams crossed the river at dead of night, and attacked the Nawab's sepoys, who were routed after only a slight opposition, the losses on the English side being quite negligible. Capt. Long, commanding a detachment, took the fort of Katwa, including all the artillery in it. Muhammad Taqi Khan, who had led the attack on Amyatt's party, was mortally wounded in this action, and died a few days later.⁵⁶

Battle of Suti

Adams entered Murshidabad, without meeting much resistance, on 24 July, and it was at this city that Mir Jafar was proclaimed Nawab with due formalities. After spending four days there to refresh his forces, Adams started his march towards Monghyr on 28 July. A place called Suti, at the head of the Bhagirathi river, was reached five days later, and was the scene of a stubborn fight with a large body of Mir Qasim's best troops and artillery, who occupied a position of vantage and made a resolute stand, quite uncommon for the sepoys of those days. The fierce fighting went on for four hours, but in the end Mir Qasim's troops were crushingly defeated. On the victor's side 40 Europeans, 6 officers, and 299 other ranks were wounded or killed. There were heavy casualties on the other side too. Twenty-three pieces of cannon, and a hundred and fifty boats loaded with military equipment and other stores were taken. Maj. Carnac, who commanded the vigorous onslaught on the main body of the enemy, played a brilliant part in this battle.⁵⁷

Battle of Udhua Nullah

After the battle, Adams advanced to Rajmahal, about 3 or 4 miles from which place was the strong entrenchment the Nawab had thrown up to the river from the hill. In order to avoid danger, it was resolved to carry on regular approaches, which having been done by 5 September, the Major decided upon an assault, which was carried out with very few casualties. The battle of Udhua Nullah was decisive inasmuch as Mir Qasim had seemed to place his chief confidence in the strength of this entrenchment. This battle resulted in the cutting off from the Nawab of all supplies from Bengal, which fell completely into the hands of the victors.⁵⁸

Mir Qasim's Threat to Kill Prisoners

After his defeat, Mir Qasim sent letters to Adams, conveying a threat to kill all the Europeans in the former's hands if the Company's troops proceeded

56. P. 526.

57. Pp. 526-7 and 528.

58. P. 527.

further. This communication was referred to President Vansittart by Maj. Adams for advice. The Council at Fort William held the view that the enemy's threat was merely the outcome of his inability to carry on the war, and so they wrote to the Major that "great as our Concern was for the Safety of those Gentlemen, We thought, the more We let it appear to him, the more we should expose them to such a Risk. That it was impossible any Terms of Accommodation could take place between Us, or that We could give him the least hopes of the Operation of our Army being suspended on that account." The authorities impressed Adams with the necessity for his remaining firm, and with their determination to wage the war vigorously. The Council also intimated to him that, with a view to preserving the lives of the prisoners held by Mir Qasim, the former were ready to allow Mir Qasim to retire unharmed, should he make such a proposal and immediately hand over his prisoners. The Company could allow Mir Qasim to reside at Rohtasgarh for a year, on condition that he lived there quietly, meanwhile deciding the ultimate place of his retirement. Adams was left with discretion to carry out these instructions in the way he considered, under the circumstances, to be the most advantageous. The Company was also prepared to exchange William Hay for Muhammad Ali, the late *Faujdar* (*Naib*) of Dacca.⁵⁹

Capture of Monghyr and the Fall of Patna

The Company's forces commanded by Adams continued their march towards Monghyr, besieging the fort there, which surrendered after putting up only a token show of opposition. After taking Monghyr, the forces of the Company turned their face towards Patna, which was taken by assault on 6 November, after the necessary approaches had been made. In this action they lost Maj. John Irving.⁶⁰

Some time prior to the Company's forces reaching Patna, Mir Qasim had hurriedly left that city, retiring towards Rohtasgarh. Adams, after the fall of Patna, now started in hot pursuit of the fugitive who, however, continued his flight towards the river Karamnasa, without pausing to offer fight, crossing the great river into Shujaud-Daulah's territories with his few remaining sepoys and effects.⁶¹

Massacre at Patna

It will be remembered that Mir Qasim had threatened to slaughter the European prisoners in his hands in case the further advance of the Company's forces continued. The Council at Fort William, approached by Adams for advice, had instructed him to remain firm. As a consequence, when that officer advanced towards Monghyr, the prisoners were transferred from that city to Patna. Mir Qasim now resolved to execute his threat, and the barbarous atrocity was at last committed through the instrumentality of Walter

59. Pp. 527-8.

60. Pp. 564.

61. *Ibid.*

Reinhardt alias Samru, stated to be a native of Alsace in Europe, on October 5 and 6 at Patna. Samru was accompanied by two companies of sepoy which he personally commanded, and was the principal actor in the tragedy. The only survivor of the massacre was the surgeon of the Patna factory, Mr. Fullerton, whose life was spared perhaps to utilize his services in negotiating with his fellow-countrymen for peace.⁶²

Shah Alam and Shujaud-Daulah

In course of the hostilities with Mir Qasim, the titular Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II, and the Nawab Vazir of Oudh, Shujaud-Daulah, advanced with their forces to a point within a day's march of Benares, to which town they sent a forward detachment under the command of Beni Bahadur. Now Shujaud-Daulah sent word to Maj. Adams and to Fort William that his advance had only the intention of helping the Company against Mir Qasim. But he was informed that the Company stood in no need of any assistance against that foe, but that they would desire his help in securing the person of Mir Qasim along with his effects.⁶³ A little later, both Shujaud-Daulah and Shah Alam joined hands with the rebel, Mir Qasim, who had fled across the frontier of Oudh,⁶⁴ against the foreigners but their combined forces were worsted by the latter under the command of Maj. Munro at the battle of Buxar in 1764.

Distress Signal to Madras and Bombay Presidencies

We may now allude to the help given by the other Presidencies to Fort William in the prosecution of the war. When war was declared we learn that the authorities at Calcutta despatched an urgent SOS to the sister Presidencies in the South and the West, asking them to send reinforcements to the maximum extent available, and also sought help from Admiral Cornish, who was informed that, as circumstances had forced the hands of the Fort William authorities to throw into the war every able-bodied man they could lay hands upon, the settlement had in consequence [been] denuded of its defence, and was bare and helpless in case an attack were made. It would therefore be of the utmost importance to the safety and interests of the Company in Bengal if two or three of His Majesty's vessels were sent to the Bay of Bengal, with a force of marines to garrison Calcutta. Admiral Cornish responded with a promise of two ships and two frigates along with the larger part of the marines with him. Madras promised to despatch a force of about two hundred and fifty.⁶⁵

Defence of Calcutta

When Maj. Adams started upon his march with the forces under him, Capt. McLean remained in garrison with six companies of sepoy for holding Calcutta. All possible measures to strengthen the defence were immediately

62. Pp. 564-5.

63. P. 565.

64. P. 566.

65. P. 528.

taken, e.g., mounting the ramparts of the new fort and filling the magazines with adequate supplies of ammunition and provisions. The Company's employees and other civilians at Calcutta formed themselves into a company of militia, about 200 strong, which was given military training,⁶⁶ while about 90 seamen were trained in the use of artillery. When all these preliminaries had been completed, Capt. McLean was in a position to take the field. Directions were given to him to proceed *via* Burdwan and Birbhum, and thence to effect a junction with Maj. Adams's troops, going by the western road through the hills. One of the aims of this manoeuvre was to frighten Mir Qasim's forces at Monghyr, another being to be in a position to protect Burdwan, if necessary.⁶⁷

Great credit was due to Maj. Adams for his achievements. He won military success, with a minimum loss of men,⁶⁸ in the teeth of extraordinary difficulties and fatigue due to the monsoonish weather conditions and the poor roads. Anyhow the Company's objective was attained, *viz.*, the restoration of Mir Jafar to the throne in order to secure the trade privileges of the Company's servants.

Relations with Ram Narayan

We may now glance in passing at the relations of the Company with Ram Narayan, Ram Charan, and Nandakumar. As regards the first-named, he was the *Naib* of Patna and had been given protection by the English on condition that he would render 'account of his administration to the Subahdar and be answerable to him for the revenue of the Bihar province according to the terms agreed with the late Nawab Jaffar Ali Khan.' Maj. Carnac was directed by the Fort William authorities in 1761 to advise Ram Narayan to settle his accounts with the Nawab, but Carnac created difficulties, setting up his own judgment against the orders of the Governor and the Select Committee as regards the adjustment of the accounts, and did not act in concert with the English chief at Patna. Therefore, Col. Coote was invested with full powers, civil and military, and sent in place of Carnac; but history repeated itself and Coote followed the suit of Carnac in the matter of the erring *Naib*. Such a state of affairs made Nawab Mir Qasim very uneasy, and made him insist on Ram Narayan's dismissal.

The Fort William authorities, considering the Nawab's attitude to be reasonable, let him have his way. The Nawab, on 10 August 1761, appointed Raj Ballabh as the new *Naib* of Bihar, and the Court of Directors approved of their Calcutta subordinates' non-interference in the matter. They expressed themselves as follows: "We say that we highly approve of the Orders the President and Council gave to set aside Ram Narrain from the Nabobship and oblige him to give just Accounts to the Subah of his Government, for it appears evident he had long been treated with great lenity and Moderation, and had he behaved with a proper Subordination, and paid when

66. P. 529.

67. Pp. 529-30.

68. Pp. 528-9.

so often called upon what was the Subah's just Rights from the Revenues of the Country, It might then have been right to have continued him in the Nabobship, but when he had made repeated and shameful excuses, refused for many months to produce or give in any Accounts," his conduct could not be condoned, with any justice, and therefore "we add that we highly approve of your continuing steadfast to the Subah and the assistance you gave to recover the just Revenues due to him such a Conduct is surely the proper method of shewing him our determined Resolution to perform Our part of the Treaty subsisting between us, and We shall never approve of giving protection to any of his Subjects, Dependants or under Officers on any pretence, but what Justice and reason may warrant."⁶⁹

Ram Charan's Case -

Ram Charan had been successively the bania of Clive, then of Col. Caillaud and later of Vansittart. On April 27, 1761, the authorities at Fort William received a packet of letters from Mr. Johnstone. These had been intercepted at one of his *chaukis*, and were addressed to Kamgar Khan, the leader of the rebellious *zamindars* in Bihar. The packet also contained letters under Kamgar Khan's seal to Ram Charan, in reply to the aforementioned ones. The letter appeared to be forged, but it was difficult to find out the real author with certainty, as they were not signed, but merely sealed with a seal which could easily be counterfeited by any engraver. Small wonder, therefore, that the authorities at Fort William refused to take any action on the basis thereof, until surer proofs were available in course of time.⁷⁰

On April 28, 1761, another accusation was levelled against Ram Charan. He was charged with fraud in the initial payment of the money due from Mir Jafar in consequence of the treaty executed by the latter, and also with having made several overcharges under the head of camp expenses. It was alleged that a set of three particular books contained the proofs and details of the fraud practised by him. Ram Charan contended that those books had been taken from his possession by Clive, when, under the latter's orders, an investigation had been instituted into those charges by Watts, Walsh, and Scrafton. It transpired that those books, along with other documents, had been taken over by Clive, and passed on to the committee inquiring into those charges; also that Clive had reinstated Ram Charan in his employment, and when returning to Europe, given him a certificate of good conduct. Whether the books in question had been returned to the Bania or not could not be ascertained, no record of the proceedings of the former inquiry being available. It was also not known what discoveries had been made from the three books. Under these circumstances, the authorities obtained from the accused a security to ensure that he would present himself for interrogation, if and when required, and meantime sent up all the papers of the case to the Directors of the Company for inquiries to be

69. Pp. 364-5 and 170.

70. P. 419.

made from Messrs. Watts, Walsh, and Serafton, then in England. The Court of Directors were also requested to suggest the nature of the action to be taken against Ram Charan.⁷¹

Nandakumar

Nandakumar had been afforded protection by the Company, and was formerly employed by them in their transactions with the Nawab's government. An intercepted letter showed that he had maintained a secret correspondence with the Raja of Burdwan. Hence guards were placed on him and his friends, and papers seized from him; witnesses were also examined. His letters were found to be couched in mysterious language which increased suspicions against him. Yet no strong action was taken against him. He was merely warned and let off, as it was thought that he could not injure the Company's interests.⁷²

Even after this experience, Nandakumar did not remain quiet, but was found to have been instrumental in the correspondence between Shah Alam and the Governor-General of French India before the capture of Pondicherry in December, 1760. The President and Council discussed the case, and now felt that the man could do much mischief if allowed to remain free or even if banished from Bengal. It was therefore decided to keep him under house arrest, so as to prevent his carrying on any correspondence.⁷³

Relations with the Shahzada

After Clive's departure for England in the beginning of February 1760, Shahzada Ali Gauhar, better known by his later title, Shah Alam II, invaded Bengal, and Maj. Caillaud and Miran (son of Mir Jafar) were despatched against him. They defeated him on February 22, 1760,⁷⁴ but the latter reappeared on the scene, so that once again the two victors were despatched against him. Although they engaged him in a number of encounters, he was not quite crushed since he could reassemble his forces. He was joined by a number of disaffected rajas with their own grievances and was able to defeat the combined forces of the Company and Ram Narayan, *Naib* of Bihar. When, however, Caillaud and Miran went after him, he withdrew by a track behind the hills, penetrating into Bengal as far as Burdwan. The Company's forces pursued him hard and hot, preventing his advance towards Murshidabad. It being the monsoon season, however, the Company's troops withdrew to Patna. The Shahzada's troops in the province were supported by Kamgar Khan, Pahalwan Singh, Mons. Law, the French chief, and others. The Company showed willingness to come to terms with him, but such a course was precluded by circumstances. He already stood committed to his followers. Maj. Carnac who had taken over command from Caillaud was therefore instructed by the authorities at Fort William to prosecute the war vigorously. Maj. Yorke too was directed to take the

71. Pp. 419-20.

72. Pp. 326 and 345.

73. P. 454.

74. P. 291.

held against the Prince.⁷⁵ The Shahzada's incursions caused a heavy set-back to trade in the province.⁷⁶ However, the victory of the Company's forces at Patna on January 15, 1761, put an end to these troubles. Mons. Law, with the members of his detachment, was taken prisoner and all their guns were captured. After the victory, Carnac zealously pursued the defeated Prince, compelling him to separate from his weak adherents and to throw himself upon the mercy of the Company.⁷⁷ The Court of Directors, on receiving intelligence of this notable triumph, wrote: "The Shawzada's defeat by Major Carnac, & in consequence thereof his throwing himself upon you for protection, is an Event of so extraordinary a nature, and the State of Public Affairs so fluctuating in Bengal, that we cannot give any other Directions thereupon, than that all your endeavours must be to pursue such measures, as after the most Serious and mature consideration, shall appear most likely and best adapted to settle the tranquility of the Country and be for the Interest of the Company."⁷⁸

While the Prince remained in Bengal, his expenses amounting to Rs. 1,000/- per day, were defrayed by Mir Qasim.⁷⁹

Plan to Get the Shahzada Assassinated

The Court of Directors got information that Col. Caillaud and Miran had affixed their signatures to a document, declaring that a large sum of about Rs. 50,000 would be offered as a reward to several would-be assassins of the Shahzada. This document was taken to Amyatt, the then Chief of Patna factory, for his signature. This information much disconcerted the Directors, who sent orders to Fort William, instructing the authorities to institute "the most strict and impartial inquiry into this affair." If Caillaud had indeed put his signature to that paper, he was forthwith to be dismissed from the Company's employment, and sent back to England by the first available ship. The functionaries at Fort William were enjoined to publish it widely in the country that their principals completely discountenanced the action of Caillaud, so that "all the World may know how Jealous We are of the Honour and Reputation of the Company and that We shall always to the utmost of Our Power to [sic] preserve the same unsullied by the severest Resentment against any of Our Agents, of whatsoever Rank or Station who shall Violate the same. Should any other Europeans either in our Service or residing under our Protection, be concerned in or accessory to the Crime imputed to Colonel Caillaud they are also upon being found Guilty in like manner to be sent home immediately & should any Natives of India have been concerned therein they are to be treated with the utmost Severity."⁸⁰

75. Pp. 272 and 276.

76. P. 286.

77. P. 328.

78. P. 116.

79. P. 442.

80. Pp. 117-8.

In pursuance of these directions, an inquiry was instituted against Caillaud who was asked to come to Bengal from Madras to defend himself. He admitted the truth of the accusation, but his arguments were so convincing for the Fort William authorities that they recommended to the Directors to excuse him for this lapse.⁸¹

Calcutta Council Keen to place the Shahzada on the Throne of Delhi

When the Shahzada was under the protection of the English, the Fort William functionaries seem to have toyed with the idea of escorting and enthroning him at Delhi. At first, the Directors left the matter to the discretion of their officials at Calcutta, and did not want to interfere with their decision, contenting themselves with merely pointing out the grave risks attendant upon such an enterprise, and asking the Fort William functionaries to act with the greatest circumspection.⁸² Although Carnac and Coote were both eager to lead the Prince to his capital the Shahzada left Bengal precipitately, thus saving the Company the trouble and risk involved in such an expedition. The Directors' standpoint was that "if we can secure our present Possessions and Privileges in Bengal, preserve the Peace of the Province and the Nabob in the Government and Prevent the Borders from being Invaded or Disturbed by the Neighbouring Rajahs or other powers, we shall be fully Satisfied, and think our Forces Judiciously employed in answering these principal Points, for we are by no means desirous of making further Acquisitions or engaging our Forces in very distant projects, unless the most absolute necessity should require it to answer one or other of the principal Views aforementioned."⁸³ So far as the authorities at Fort William were concerned, however, the proposed expedition to Delhi, had it materialised, would have been undertaken only with a view to preserving peace in Bengal. According to them, "it would be better to join a part of our Forces with the Shawzadah to conduct him to his Capital than to employ the same Force in carrying on a War against him in Bengal."⁸⁴

Sanads for the Company

The Shahzada, now Shah Alam II, was willing to confirm the possessions and privileges enjoyed by the Company in Bengal subject to the payment of a tribute by the latter. He offered at the same time to confer on the Company the *Diwani* of Bengal on condition that it became answerable for the royal revenues; but the Council at Fort William declined the offer as its acceptance would, it was apprehended, strain their relations with the Nawab.⁸⁵ The Court of Directors approved of this action of the Calcutta Council and the reasons which prompted it, but could not help expressing surprise at the inconsistent line of action adopted in this matter by the Emperor. They thus

81. P. 447.

82. P. 156.

83. P. 188.

84. P. 442.

85. P. 364.

wrote on the subject, "it seems something extraordinary to us that at the time the King makes this advance [the *Diwani*], he should return the applications made to him for the Sunnuds to confirm our privileges and Possessions in Bengal Granted by the late and present Nabob in so loose and unsatisfactory a manner, and even to require a Piscash or Present before he passes the Order in due Form. The Great Services we had rendered his Majesty, and the Generous treatment he met with from us as well as from our Ally the Nabob during his stay at Patna surely claimed a more distinguished Treatment, and at least a full Grant of our Requests without such an expensive demand annexed...and therefore we think there is reason to apprehend the King is not so cordially attached to us as we might have expected."⁸⁶

War with France and Spain

The Seven Years' War between France and England (1756-63) was fought not only in the continents of North America and Europe, but in India as well. In 1759, the French in Canada were brought down to their knees. They were not having better fortune in Europe either, while Pondicherry surrendered on December 15, 1760.⁸⁷ At the commencement of the year 1760, steps had been taken towards the holding of a peace conference to pave the way for the cessation of hostilities. However, the chances of success for such peace parleys were not rosy, because the French were doing their best to improve their position in order to secure more favourable terms at a possible peace congress later. England, therefore, continued to adopt full-blooded measures to ensure zealous prosecution of the war.⁸⁸

The French were grievously outmatched by the English in naval warfare and, finding that they could make no headway against the latter's squadrons on the high seas, followed the policy of hindering their enemies' trade by despatching naval frigates and granting commissions to numerous privateers. This policy had led to the capture of a considerable number of English ships. Fortunately for the French, westerly winds prevailed for a long period at a stretch, preventing the English ships from getting out to sea. However, upon the calms ensuing and the winds favouring the English were able to drive the French out of the English Channel, and in their turn succeeded in capturing a large number of the French frigates and privateers.⁸⁹

In 1761, overtures were made to the Kings of England and Prussia by the belligerent powers for the cessation of hostilities, and a congress was to be held for that purpose. Even negotiations for peace with France followed. However, the congress did not materialise and the *pourparlers* with France were broken off. During the course of the peace talks, certain claims 'highly repugnant to the interest of Great Britain' having been preferred by Spain, it was feared that she too might join the war, on the side of France, and against England.

86. P. 189.

87. P. 329.

88. P. 7.

89. P. 78.

Hence, England made preparations to meet the eventuality of war with Spain actually breaking out.⁹⁰ War against Spain was eventually declared by England on January 4, 1762.⁹¹

Negotiations for a peace settlement between Great Britain and France were, however, resumed towards the close of 1762. On 3 November preliminary articles for peace were signed by the British plenipotentiary at Fontainebleau and these were received in England on November 8. Public proclamation of cessation of hostilities took place on November 26. The Directors of the East India Company, in order to enforce the terms of the cease-fire agreement, ordered the officials at Fort William to adhere scrupulously to the agreement. They were further directed to send express intimation of the terms thereof to the British settlements in other parts of India, with the same end in view. A thorough study of the terms of the settlement was accordingly enjoined upon the English authorities in India.⁹²

On February 10, 1763, at Paris the ministers of Great Britain, France, Spain, and Portugal, put their signatures to the Definitive Treaty which was later on ratified by their respective governments.⁹³

Treaty of Paris, 1763

The Court of Directors, in a letter dated March 9, 1763, transmitted certain instructions to their officials in all the English settlements in India, in regard to the carrying out of the terms of this treaty pertaining to India, as embodied in article 11 of the Treaty⁹⁴ and in an Explanatory Declaration signed by the Duke of Bedford. They were apprised that the primary objective of the treaty was the rendition by the English to the French of the *comptoirs* (factories) held by the latter on Malabar and Coromandel coasts and in Orissa and Bengal on January 1, 1749, and the French renunciation to the English of all gains of territory made after the said date. Hence, it was necessary, first of all, to make sure as to the extent and limits of the French possessions in India on New Year's Day, 1749. According to Dupleix (in his *Memoirs*) the French then had : on the Coromandel Coast, Pondicherry, the factory at Karikal, a lodge at Masulipatam and another at Yanam; in Bengal, Chander-nagore and five lodges at Balasore, Dacca, Cossimbazar, Jagdia, and Patna; on the Malabar Coast, Malé and a lodge each at Surat and Calicut. The officials at Fort William received intimation that nothing else but these factories were to pass back to the French under the provisions of the peace treaty.

90. P. 128.

91. P. 129.

92. P. 158.

93. P. 206.

94. "Dans les Indes Orientales la Grande Bretagne restituera à la France les différents comptoirs que cette couronne possédait.... Et sa majesté Très Chrétienne renonce à toute prétention aux acquisitions qu'elle avait faite sur la côte de Coromandel et d'Orissa depuis le dit commencement de l'année 1749. Elle s'engage de plus à ne point ériger des fortifications et à ne point entretenir des troupes dans aucune partie des états du soubah de Bénigale...."

In the same letter, the authorities at Fort William were instructed to make minute inquiries so as to establish the extent and limits of those places at the beginning of 1749. They were to note that all advantages and territorial gains acquired by the French later than the said date, were not to be restored, but were to remain with their latest possessors. With respect to Pondicherry, its boundaries had been extended in 1749 by the accession of the lands of Villianur and Bahour with 80 *aldis* (villages) dependent on them, granted by Chanda Sahib. Likewise, Karikal was a mere *comptoir* or nearly so in January 1749, and according to Dupleix, the lands of Karikal and 81 *aldis* were granted to the French by Muzaffar Jang in 1750. Therefore, the lands about Pondicherry and the Karikal factory were not to be restored. Similarly, in the case of Masulipatam, nothing more than the lodge which the French had in January 1749 was to be included in the rendition of territories. The town of Masulipatam and the adjoining districts were to continue with the English. In the same way, the four provinces granted to the French by Salabat Jang, as well as territories acquired by the French afterwards, were, under the treaty, renounced by the French. The Fort William officials were to note that they had to give back only the *comptoirs* and not the territories or districts which had formerly been in French hands, except such of them as had belonged to the factories prior to January 1, 1749. The French, on their part, had to give back all the acquisitions gained by them after that date. They had also to return all the grants which they had obtained from Chanda Sahib. Muhammad Ali Khan was acknowledged as the lawful ruler of the Carnatic and *ipso facto*, Chanda Sahib could be regarded as no better than a usurper; hence any grants made by him to the French were automatically invalidated.

The Fort William officials were also intimated that the French were to be "restored to nothing but what they not only had a right to possess, but actually possessed, on the 1st January 1748/9 so that a dormant Grant under which they had not then taken possession, would not avail them in this part of the Treaty."

The Directors also communicated some instructions in regard to Madras. The Fort William authorities were informed that certain objections had been raised in respect of the possession of Madras, on the score that that city had been with the French at the beginning, and during the larger part, of 1749. The British Government took up the stand that Madras had been restored to them under the terms of the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle (October 18, 1748), which terminated the War of the Austrian Succession. It was only on account of the distance that the treaty provisions could not be known in India till sometime in the year 1749. Nevertheless, Madras had become (so they held) an English settlement the moment the treaty had been concluded, the date of the actual rendition of the city by the French being quite immaterial. It had not been a French possession on January 1, 1749, and so, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Paris, was not to be given back to the French.

The same letter further included certain instructions in respect of the rendition of the places not in the actual possession of the English at the time. It was

felt that there would be no serious difficulty in the way of the English being able to restore French possessions lying in the territories of certain Indian rulers, although the English had given a solemn undertaking to Salabat Jang and the Nawab of Bengal not to allow the return of the French into their territories. In regard to Karikal, the fort there had been pulled down and the district had been sold to the Raja of Tanjore for a consideration of Rs. 150,000. All these areas, or a greater part of them, had not belonged to the French till 1759, and therefore could not be given back. Still, in case their rendition was necessary and unavoidable, the Tanjore ruler was to be given proper compensation for their transfer to the French.

The Directors informed their officers at Fort William that buildings and forts were to be given back to the French in exactly the same condition as they had been in, the day the treaty had been executed.

According to the provisions of this treaty, the French too, on their part, had to give back the territories they had acquired from the British. Thus they undertook to restore Natal and Tapanuli in Sumatra though these places were actually under Dutch possession. The French were not permitted by the treaty to fortify, or to have troops in, any part of the *Subah* of Bengal—a provision they had submitted to most unwillingly. Since the term “the *Subah* of Bengal” was vague and left undefined, it was at a subsequent date defined in the Declaration. That Declaration worked out considerably to the advantage of the English, as according to it, all the territory to the north of Yanam was to be regarded as a part of the *Subah* of Bengal. Thus Yanam became the northernmost point where the French could lawfully maintain armed forces or have fortifications. This ensured that the French would never regain a strong position in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, or be in a position to make any trouble in Bengal or compete with the English Company in that province. The Governor and Council of Fort William were specially requested to be “constantly attentive to this great Object and careful to observe to remonstrate & by all lawful means in their power to prevent the slightest violation” of this part of the Treaty.

The Directors also emphatically pointed out to the Calcutta officials that the Treaty included an acknowledgment by the French of the title of Nawab Muhammad Ali Khan as Nawab of the Carnatic. In consequence, all the claims of Chanda Sahib went overboard, root and branch. Such an acknowledgment of Muhammad Ali was designed to have a healthy effect on the Indian rulers—to give them a “further proof of our regard to our Enagagements and of the value of our Alliance.” The authorities in India were exhorted to represent this advantage in such a light to Nawab Muhammad Ali, who was also to be told that the British had considerable difficulty in getting this acknowledgment from the Government of France. Similarly Salabat Jang was recognized as the lawful ruler of Hyderabad. This confirmed the English title to the areas acquired by them from Salabat Jang. Recognition by the French of these rulers was also an additional security “to the Peace of the Country, leaving the French no colour to interpose hereafter in favour of any other Pretenders to the Sovereignty of the Decan or the Carnatick.”

Finally the French, by the same Treaty, agreed not to demand from the Indian powers compensation for losses suffered during the war. The English authorities in India were directed to prevent the French from acquiring any new privileges which could become *casus belli* for a fresh war.⁹⁵

Future of the French Company

We may now refer to the observations made by the Directors, towards the end of 1763 regarding the future of the French East India Company. With prophetic insight they observed that that Company was in a very "low and languishing Condition, unable to carry on Trade, and imagined to be upon the point of being dissolved. If that takes place which We suppose most probable, it is thought the Scheme will be for private People to trade to the Isles of Bourbon & France & China, & possibly some few Ships may go to the other parts of India on condition of paying His Most Christian Majesty an Indulto, and that the French will renounce entirely the other Settlements and Trade to Asia, for the present at least, as well for avoiding the Expenses and Difficulties that would be met with, as for encouraging their own Manufactures." The Directors went on to add, that their correspondents should not regard the information conveyed to them as "a certainty."⁹⁶ However, the premonitions of the Directors of the English Company came true, for the French Company was jejune after the Peace of Paris, and by a decree issued by the King of France on August 13, 1769, its privileges were suspended. The French trade with India, subject to certain restrictions, was henceforth laid open, and the Company's settlements passed directly under the control of the French Crown.

Glash with the Danes

An unfortunate mishap precipitated a collision between the English Company and the Danish factory at Serampore. A trifling quarrel took place between the *Jamadar*, *Havaldar*, and a sepoy of the English Company, and the guard and peons at the barrier of the Danish factory. As a result, the three employees of the English Company were punished by the Second-in-Council and Zamindar of the Danish Factory. The English authorities considered this action to be an insult to their army, and therefore, determined to mete out condign punishment to these European trade rivals. Maj. Adams made a report of the occurrence to the authorities at Fort William, who demanded satisfaction for the injury done to their troops. The Danish Zamindar was desired to apologize to the officer commanding the English troops at Gaurhati.⁹⁷

The Danish authorities in their reply took up the stand that they had a perfect right to punish any sepoy or dependent of the English Company who offended against their settlement. They further mentioned that on many similar

95. Pp. 207-11.

96. P. 237.

97. P. 497.

occasions in the past no action had been taken against the offending sepoys by the Calcutta authorities in spite of the fact that the matter had been brought to their notice.⁹⁸

The English Company's officials reiterated their demand for satisfaction, but again received an unsatisfactory reply, the Danes repeating their old arguments and trying to repudiate Maj. Adams's report, and finally refusing to render any satisfaction.⁹⁹

In these circumstances, the British authorities decided to exact the satisfaction themselves, if the Danes persisted in their non-compliance. Another letter addressed to the latter warned them that in case of their persistent refusal to offer the satisfaction desired of them, Maj. Adams would surround their factory and seize the offender complained of. Maj. Adams was to send this letter from Gaurhati through an officer, and wait only twenty-four hours for an answer. In the event of meeting with silence or a refusal, he was to besiege the factory with a battalion of sepoys, and then demand the apology from the Danish Zamindar. If it were even then withheld, Adams was to enter the factory, seize the Zamindar, and carry him off to Gaurhati, then to let off the captive with a general warning to the Danish establishment that if in future they had any complaints, they were not to exact satisfaction therefor themselves but were to represent the matter to the English authorities for redress. Adams at the same time was cautioned to do no injury to the person of the Zamindar or that of any one else in the Danish settlement.¹⁰⁰

No answer having come to the letter forwarded by Adams, that officer as per above instructions, surrounded the Danish settlement. In the end, the Danish Zamindar did go to Gaurhati and make the desired submission to the commanding officer there. Thereafter the English troops surrounding the factory retired from that place.¹⁰¹

Relations with the Dutch

The Directors informed the Fort William authorities that Capt. Scott had come across a Dutch ship heading for India, and, on inquiry, had found out that six such ships, each with a complement of 350 inmates (of which rather more than half were troops) had set out from Amsterdam, bound for India. Hence the Fort William officials were asked to take, in collaboration with the Presidency of Madras, all precautions and steps necessary to meet this danger. It was hoped that the Hollanders would not dare to attack the English; nevertheless, the Calcutta officials were to remain on the alert.¹⁰²

In another letter the Directors wrote to the Fort William authorities that they had been informed by Lord Bute that there was cause for apprehending that the Dutch East India Company might induce the States-General

98. *Ibid.*

99. Pp. 497-8.

100. P. 498.

101. Pp. 498 and 500-1.

102. Pp. 24-5.

(the Dutch Government) to take measures which might lead to the most deleterious consequences and cause a major showdown between the two East India Companies. The situation called for the exercise of the greatest tact and circumspection. Lord Bute had further advised the Directors that both the British and the Dutch Governments desired to have the disputes between the two Companies settled by Commissaries. What was needed was an undertaking to be given by both sides, to refrain from all acts of violence while the Commissaries were discussing the matters outstanding between the Companies. The States-General had given such an undertaking on behalf of the Dutch East India Company, and had stopped sending the armament bound for India. The Fort William officials were given instructions from their London principals not to indulge in any provocations or hostilities against the Dutch Company, and were enjoined to use their best endeavours to create feelings of amity and understanding with the latter. Even if the Nawab tried to harass the Dutch Company in Bengal, or in any way tried to injure its interests, the Fort William authorities were to exercise their good offices to procure satisfaction and redress for their Dutch *confrères*, and were asked to aid and defend the latter as far as possible. The Directors pointed out that the sincere desire and intention of the English Company was that "the Dutch Company shall enjoy Freedom of Trade, Safety and Protection equally with ourselves."¹⁰³

In spite of these good intentions, in the middle of 1763 the Court of Directors were apprehensive of the Dutch plans to send armament to the East Indies. So they approached the British Government with the request that the latter should either prevail upon the Dutch Government not to send armament to India, or in the alternative to put at the disposal of the English Company a large naval force sufficient to protect the English concern from any designs the Dutch might be harbouring against it. As a consequence of representations by the British Government, the Dutch ambassador, under orders from the States-General, informed the former that "no more Men would be sent this year to the East Indies by the Dutch Company than were necessary to complete the Corps they now had there, & that they had no design whatever, directly or indirectly to molest the English." Notwithstanding this assurance, the Court of Directors wrote to the functionaries at Calcutta: "it will be highly prudent and incumbent on you, and all Our Servants in India [to] have a careful Eye upon their Proceedings & be constantly on their guard to prevent any Attempts they may make to Our prejudice, & you will on your Parts take the necessary Care accordingly."¹⁰⁴

Miscellaneous

Sidelights on the Administration of Justice

The correspondence under study includes some useful material as regards the system of judiciary under the Company. Appeals could be made from the

103. Pp. 153-4.

104. Pp. 237-8.

Mayor's Court to the President and Council and in the last resort to the King-in-Council. We gather that appeals could be lodged with the highest tribunal only in cases with a valuation of at least a thousand pagodas. There being some doubt as to the exchange value of this figure, the Company's authorities decided to make calculations at 8 shillings a pagoda. Hence, appeals could be entertained only in cases involving amounts of a minimum of £ 400.¹⁰⁵

We glean the information that some ship-owners instituted a suit against the Company in the Mayor's Court for the value of their ship *Restitution*, and obtained a decree in their favour. The members of the Fort William Board formed themselves into a Court of Appeals and reversed the decree of the Mayor's Court. The plaintiffs then preferred an appeal to the King-in-Council against the decision of the said Court of Appeals.¹⁰⁶

We learn that a number of inquiries by the Mayor's Court about certain disputed law points were referred to the Court of Directors for guidance. The latter were requested to send the information after consulting the King-in-Council.¹⁰⁷

The authorities at Fort William were advised by the Directors that although formerly they had been trying pirates with the help of juries, in future they were to be tried before the Commissioners without such help.¹⁰⁸

At one of the Quarter-Sessions nine accused persons were given capital punishment on charges of various felonies. Six of the condemned were executed forthwith. The remaining three were recommended by the Fort William authorities for pardon by His Majesty. One of them was a young slave-girl aged only thirteen, charged with the theft of some jewels from her master's house. The other two were men who had been convicted of assault and robbery on the highway. The young slave-girl was specially recommended for mercy by the Petty Jury. The Fort William authorities wrote to the Directors that "it is much to be wished that discretionary Power could be lodged in the Judges of the Sessions to grant Pardon in such Cases, or at least to mitigate the Rigor of their Confinement, for at present the Sheriff is obliged by his Office to keep the poor wretches in the condemned Hole until an Answer comes from England."¹⁰⁹

Aminchand's Bequests

It is desirable to glance at some other miscellaneous but interesting things mentioned in the correspondence, e.g., that Aminchand had bequeathed a substantial portion of his fortune for distribution in charities in all parts of the world. His executor, Hazarimal, asked the Fort William authorities to remit an amount of Rs. 1500 or £175 sterling to the governors of Magdalen House

105. P. 322

106. Pp. 322-3.

107. P. 453.

108. P. 100.

109. P. 424.

and another such amount to the governors of the Foundling Hospital. Furthermore, a large amount of Rs. 37,500 was permanently deposited in the Company's treasury the interest on which money was to go annually to the abovenamed charities.¹¹⁰

Ground Rent

For want of suitable powers for assessing the inhabitants of Calcutta to make them share the expenses of public works there the officials of Fort William resorted to doubling the ground rent in Calcutta. Only thus could they find money for repairs to the roads, drains, and other public works of the town. The enhanced rent, it was anticipated, would augment the revenues of the administration by an additional Rs. 20,000/- per annum. This levy was equitable since the people of Calcutta would pay in proportion to their possessions.¹¹¹

Permission to settle in India

Although the Company enjoyed the privilege of exclusive trade with India, and ordinarily English people were not allowed in their private capacity to trade with the East Indies, it seems that exceptions were made in certain cases by the Directors themselves. Records reveal that in 1761 such permission was given to several persons to proceed to and reside in India as free merchants, sailors etc.¹¹²

China Trade

Many passages in the correspondence make it evident that the Directors of the English Company were fully alive to the very great importance of trade with China. Frequently we come across instructions to Fort William to spare as much money as could be found for this trade. The following exhortation may serve as a sample : "As the China trade is our principal resource for valuable returns, it is of the utmost importance to feed it with as plentiful remittances as circumstances will admit of. We therefore recommend it to you in the strongest manner to take every opportunity to send to Fort S. George whatever treasure you can possibly spare from time to time, that it may [be] consigned from thence to our Agents at Canton."¹¹³

Private Correspondence by the Company's Servants

The Directors did not approve of their employees carrying on personal correspondence with the Ministers of His Majesty's Government. They very

110. P. 424, para 35. Dr. N. K. Sinha who has examined the original will of Aminchand among Calcutta High Court records states that there was no provision in it for any such charities in England. Hazarimal made these unauthorised payments merely to ingratiate himself with the Fort William Board from money which was not even his own. N. K. Sinha, *Economic History of Bengal*, Vol. I, pp. 238-44.

111. P. 558.

112. P. 88.

113. P. 61.

frequently complained of this to their officers at Fort William, &c. in one letter they say that they were sorry to observe that many observations concerning the Company's affairs had been "sent to His Majesty's Ministers and other Great Men from our Servants belonging to yours and our other Presidencies, some of which particularly upon the late Transactions with the Dutch in Bengal have much embarrassed us; We won't say that such Communications are made with a view to lessen the authority of the Court of Directors, but they certainly have a great tendency that way. You are therefore to use all possible means for putting a Stop to this Practice, and as the Court of Directors is the only channel through which Government receives all Informations concerning the Company's Affairs, if private Informations therefore are sent from any of our Servants or others under our Protection we shall deem such persons unworthy of the Company's Service & they shall be certainly Dismissed, whatever their Rank or Station may be."¹¹⁴

Special Commission enjoyed by Vansittart

The Directors held in high esteem the integrity and work of Henry Vansittart, President of Fort William Board, and therefore granted him a special commission of 2½% on the net revenue from all possessions of the English Company in Bengal, including the *Jagirs* from Mir Jafar. However, this commission was subsequently extended to other Governors also.¹¹⁵

Double Batta

The Fort William authorities had granted 'double batta' or extra pay to their officers and troops in Bengal while in the field. Every Captain received an allowance of 12 Arcot rupees a day for his common field expenses, and this was increased to Rs. 20 if he commanded a detachment. The Directors strongly disapproved of this generosity on the part of Fort William. They did not feel justified to approve the grounds on which these extra allowances had been recommended, they pointed out that the alleged dearth of food-stuffs prevailed more on the Coromandel Coast than in Bengal. Neither could the increment be justified on the score of increase in the cost of wearing apparel. The Directors went on to point out that such an allowance would make H.M.'s troops also expect and demand similar addition to their emoluments. The Company's troops in other settlements too would not lag behind in putting forward similar demands. The additional expense involved would be insupportable for the Company's revenues, considerably depleted as these were on account of the war. The Directors considered the allowances to be "unreasonable". Though they acknowledged the desirability of giving encouragement to their military officers, they were not prepared to let them make within a short time such large fortunes as might place them in a position to leave the Company's employment, thereby causing their employers a great

¹¹⁴. Pp. 141-2.

¹¹⁵. Pp. 84 and 222.

deal of inconvenience. The Directors asked their officials at Fort William to utilize every opportunity to reduce the double batta as much as possible in the circumstances.¹¹⁶

Regulations for the Company's Servants

The Company's employees were required to furnish satisfactory security while they were in employment, the security being commensurate with the status or rank of the employee. The friends of the employees had to give added security when the latter got promotions. Similarly, when minor servants came of age, they had to execute new covenants for the faithful performance of their duties. The Directors seem to have been very particular about this, and wrote to the Fort William functionaries that "These directions must be constantly observed every year & be regarded as invariable standing orders."¹¹⁷

Another communication from them directed that "no officer be appointed until there is a vacancy; and that we may know how you comply with this direction, you are to give us a very particular account from time to time in your letters of every appointment or promotion in our military service, also how and in what manner vacancies happen to make room for such appointment or promotion."¹¹⁸

Another letter asked for vacancies in the commands of Company's own ships to be filled up only provisionally, not on a permanent basis, and to send to the Directors an impartial account of the abilities and character of the new appointees.¹¹⁹

The Company seems frequently to have suffered considerable inconvenience because of the sudden resignations by its employees. Therefore, the Directors required notice from their covenanted servants, a year in advance, of their intention to give up the Company's employment. The Fort William functionaries were asked to be very particular that the servants were not permitted to leave before the expiry of the notice. After the period of notice was over, such employees were not to be permitted to continue in the Company's service, unless, of course, their continuation seemed necessary in the best interest of the Company itself.¹²⁰

116. Pp. 199-200.

117. P. 31.

118. P. 90.

119. P. 232.

120. P. 141.

LETTERS FROM COURT

LETTER DATED 16 JANUARY 1760

Shipping news—personnel of the Select Committee at Fort William.

OUR President & Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. The Ships Onslow & Triton sailed from Spithead on the 15th of last month & after having got upwards of 100 leagues to the westward of the Lizard, they met with a most severe gale of wind in wh[ich] the first named ship sprung her main-mast & received so much other damage as made it necessary to return to England to refit, she accordingly arrived at Plymouth on the 6th inst. & with the assistance she will receive from His Majesty's Officers belonging to the yard at that place, we are in hopes she will be in a condition veryshortly to proceed on her voyage. The Triton parted company with the Onslow on the 31st of last month, & as we have not heard anything of her since, it is presumed no accident has happened to retard her voyage.

2. The return of the Onslow gives us an opportunity of sending you this short letter to rectify an inadvertent mistake in naming your Select Committee in our general letter of the 23rd of November last, occasioned by the paragraph relating to the said Committee & those of the President & Council, being taken up at different times. We, therefore, here confirm the general Council in the manner appointed & settled by the 52nd & 53rd Par. of our said letter, with this explanation that it is our meaning Lieutenant Colonel Eyre Coote is to be of Council only for the purposes & in the manner mentioned¹ in the 113th & 134th paragraphs of our general letter of the 23rd March 1759. With respect to the Select Committee we direct & order that it be composed of the following named persons viz.

Henry Van-Sittart Esqr.	.	On the departure of Col. Clive
Lieut-Col. Eyre Coote	. .	in the same manner as explained above
		with respect to the General Council.

Mr. Peter Amyatt	
Major John Carnac	. . On Military affairs only.
Mr. James Barton	

3. But in case of Col. Clive's remaining in the Government on the receipt hereof, then the Select Committee is to be as follows-viz.

President Clive.

Lieut. Col. Eyre Coote	. .	in the manner before explained
		with respect to the General Council.

Henry Van-Sittart Esqr.
 Major John Carnac—on Military Affairs only
 Mr. Peter Amyatt
 Mr. James Barton

We are
 Your loving friends

P. Godfrey/John Boyd/Chas. Cutts/John
 Harrison/John Browne/Bourchier Walton/
 G. Rooke/Fred: Pigou/G. Steevens/Will.
 Barwell/Richd. Smith/Hen. Hadley/Thos.
 Waters/Richard Seward/W. Thornton/Richd.
 Gildart/Geo. Dudley/Fitz Wm. Barrington/
 S. Harrison/Hy. Crabb Boulton.

London
 16 January 1760.

2

LETTER DATED 6 FEBRUARY 1760

Shipping news—classification of cargo for Bengal—recruits for St. Helena and Bengal—reservation of Sumatra pepper for Canton.

OUR President & Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We write to you under date of the 23rd November last in quadruplicate by the Syren Snow, Onslow and His Majesty's Ships the Norfolk & Panther, also two short letters of the 7th Dec. and 16th Jan. by the Onslow, the two last will also be sent by three other conveyances, all of wh. we hope will have come to your hands long before the arrival of this ship the Royal Duke, as she is first to call at St. Helena to deliver stores & other necessities for the service of that Island.

2. As we intend to write fully to you by the direct Bengal ships, we shall confine this letter principally to what relates to this ship. We are to advise you, therefore, that we have given the strictest orders to our Governor and Council of St. Helena to use the utmost expedition in delivering her cargo that she may proceed on her voyage without loss of time.

3. The remaining cargo is consigned directly to you, & consists chiefly of 60 tons of Copper, 20 tons of Iron, 20 tons of Lead, about 100 tons of Ordnance Stores, 100 barrels of Gun powder, 37 chests of small arms & 200 bales of Cloth, but for a more particular information, we refer you to the Invoice & Bill of lading, especially, as the ship was so full and lumber'd that some goods have been returned.

4. By this ship we also send about 50 Recruits for our own forces in Bengal as by the accompanying list, but as considerable military force is intended

to be sent by the Ships bound this season for the Coast & Bay of wh. you will be informed by those ships. We have given permission to the Governor & Council of St. Helena to take as many of the recruits out of this ship as can be prevailed on to stay at that Island, & have directed them to send you a particular list of the names of all such as they shall so detain.

5. In our letter of the 23rd of Nov. we informed you, we had entertained 5 Cadets for your establishment, viz. John Eyres, Daniel Pabar, William Fuller, Issac Humphreys & James Kelly in that of the 7th Dec. was added George Samuel Foyer, we have since appointed Arthur Ashmuty, Benjamin Adamson & Robert Roberts wh. 3 last take passage on this ship & are to rank & be preferr'd according to their behaviour in the order they are named next after Geo. Samuel Fryer.

6. Since advising you in our letter of the 23 Nov. of the ships to be employed in the Company's Service this season, some addition has been made as will appear in the accompanying list to wh. therefore you are referred, as you are likewise for the arrival & departure of shipping, wherein you will observe that 5 of the 6 China ships wh. were chased by 3 French Men-of War off St. Helena & put in at Brazil are safely arrived, the other, the Tavistock being obliged to put back to Brazil to stop a leak.

7. You have been informed in our letter of the 23rd Nov. that all the Pepper on the West Coast is to be reserved for the Canton Market & that therefore no ship was to proceed thither from any of our Presidencies to complete or take in any part of their cargoes for Europe. We only hint this here to prevent your sending the Royal Duke to fill up on the West Coast.

We are,

Your loving friends,

P. Godfrey/John Boyd/Hy. Crabb Boulton/
Fred. Pigou/Richd. Smith/Richd. Seward/
Chas. Cutts/John Harrison/Heny. Hadley/G.
Steevens/Geo. Dudley/Christr. Baron/ S.
Harrison/John Browne/Bourchier. Walton/
Jacob Bosanquet/Chas. Gough/Thos Waters/
Fitz.Wm. Barrington/Richd. Gildart.

London

6 February 1760.

LETTER DATED 15 FEBRUARY 1760

Classification of cargo—King's troops for Company's assistance—more ships for Admiral Pocock's squadron—strength of French navy in the East Indies.

OUR President & Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. By these ships the Lord Mansfield & Falmouth wh. are consigned first to Fort St. George, we send you by each about 60 tons of Copper, & 100 Bales of Woollen goods and on the last named 140 barrels of gunpowder. These are the principal articles designed for your Presidency on the said ships, but as there are some others, we refer you for the particulars & amount of the whole to their respective invoices & bills of lading.

2. His Majesty having been most graciously pleased to order a considerable military force to proceed this season to the East Indies for the assistance of this Company, we are to inform you that we are well assured by the King's Ministers that in the whole it will consist of about 2,000 men to be embarked at three different periods.

3. The first embarkation consisting of about 640 men is on the ships now under dispatch viz. the Caernarvon, Ps. Augusta & Warwick, also the Lord Mansfield & Falmouth, all of wh. proceed directly to Fort St. George, the three first named are then to go to China & the other two after discharging their consignment will be dispatched for your Presidency, but if it shall so happen that the Presidency & Council think it necessary to detain either of the said ships Lord Mansfield & Falmouth, they are to forward the Bengal cargo by the ship that does proceed to you or by some other good conveyance.

4. The second embarkation of about the like number of men will proceed directly for Bengal on the ships Prince Edward, Latham, Lord Anson, Sandwich & Admiral Watson wh. will be dispatched from hence in all the month of March, the Lord Anson & Sandwich being intended, for Bombay, are after delivering their consignments & landing the soldiers, to be dispatched to that settlement.

5. And the third embarkation consisting of the remainder of the said 2,000 men will proceed on the ships to be consigned directly for Bombay & will be dispatched in all the month of April, viz. the Neptune, York Egmont, London & Earl Temple.

6. Of the 640 men wh. [who] now proceed to Fort St. George, one half as we have been informed are destined for Col. Draper's Battalion & the other for Lieut. Col. Coote, at the same time we are assured that the last named moiety may be detained at that Presidency if the Service requires it & they are not wanted in Bengal. This measure may be the more necessary, as has been before observed the forces for the second embarkation are to proceed directly to you & very likely will be in battalion whereas those of the first are in companies only.

7. However, should it be determined upon to be really necessary to send Lieut. Col. Coote's men to Bengal, the President & Council of Fort St. George

are in such case to forward them thither by the Lord Mansfield, Falmouth or any good conveyances that offer, if this reinforcement shall accordingly arrive at your Presidency it is to be in all respects upon the same footing as to additional pay & allowances with the officers & soldiers now under the command of Lieut. Col. Coote agreeable to the directions we gave last season relating to that battalion, observing, however, that as there are no officers above the rank of a Captain therein we are not to be at any further expense on account of Field-officers than we then directed to be allowed to Lieut.-Col. Coote & the Majors Wm. Gordon & Robert Gordon.

8. Although the King's troops are at different settlements, yet it is His Majesty's intentions they should be employed wherever their service may be wanted. The necessary steps must therefore be taken & measures concerted & pursued for carrying the same into execution in the most effectual manner more particularly by the Select Committee at yours & our other Presidencies.

9. His Majesty has been most graciously pleased to order the following ships to proceed to the East Indies to reinforce the squadron under the command of Admiral Pocock, viz.

	Guns	
The Norfolk of	74	Capt. Parker
Panther	64	Affleck
America .	64	Haldane
Medway	60	Tinker
Liverpool	28	Knight
& South Sea Castle store ship		Newsome

10. The two first named ships left England on the 6 Jan. & the others are fitting for sea and will be soon ready to sail.

11. Some steps have been taken towards holding a Congress to restore peace but we are concerned to say there appears but little prospect of so happy an event soon taking place-the French nation in particular sensibly touched with their many losses in the course of last year seem determined to use their utmost efforts this, in hopes of some advantage on their side wh. may enable them to treat on more favourable terms than they think they can at present expect, for this purpose as great preparations are making by them as their exhausted finances will admit of. On the part of Great Britain such vigorous measures are pursuing as will we hope with the Divine assistance be crowned with success and reduce the enemy to a condition which may be productive of an honourable and lasting peace.

12. The views & designs of the enemy seem to be confined principally to Europe, & we have the satisfaction therefore of observing to you that there is little reason to suppose they can send any force to the East Indies this season, at least none that can balance the superiority of the British Naval Force in those parts, & in fact we have not heard of any French ships

sailing for India since the undernamed belonging to their Company wh^o left Port L'Orient about the 22nd March 1759, bound as it is said for Pondicherry.

	Guns		Guns
Le Massac—pierced for	74	mounted	26
Le Duc de Chartres	60		12 Pounder
Compagnie Les Indes	54		24
St. Luc	24		24
			18

The Duc de Chartres was taken the 27th March by His Majesty's Ship Windsor, Her cargo consisted of 60 tons of Gunpowder & other stores, it does not appear they had any soldiers on board but that the crews of the 3 first amounted to about 300 men each & of the last to about 200.

We are,

Your loving friends,

P. Godfrey/John Boyd/Hy. Crabb Boulton/
John Harrison/John Raymond/G. Steevens/
G. Rooke/Richd. Gildart/Thos. Waters/
Bourchier Walton/Henry Hadley/Chas.
Gough/W. Thornton/John Browne/Richd.
Seward/S. Harrison/Fitz.Wm. Barrington/
Fred. Pigou/Christr. Baron/Geo. Dudley.

London

15 February, 1760.

LETTER DATED 1 APRIL 1760

Shipping news—supply of slaves from Madagascar to Sumatra—reservation of Sumatra pepper for China—personnel of Select Committee of Supercargoes at Canton—precautions for security of ships against the French—specifications of Spanish dollars—provision of military stores and clothing for Company's troops—Company's monopoly in opium trade with Sumatra—appointment of gunpowder-makers for Bengal—functions of Sea-Custom-Master defined—fine quality of saltpetre to be procured—decline of French power on Coromandel Coast—Dutch military preparations—lavishness at Mir Jafar's reception at Calcutta condemned—committee of five persons for management of newly acquired lands—measures to be taken for rehabilitating Kharijuri pargana—Court urges prevention of abuse of dastaks—fortification of Calcutta and Berhampore—appointment of Select Committee at Fort Marlbro'—censor of information relating to Company's affairs sent out to England—duty of 20% on non-British woollen goods—resignations by Bengal army officers in protest against being placed under command of Capt. Gowin of Bombay army—Court of Proprietors agree to reduction in dividend to meet financial difficulties—instructions regarding bills of exchange—payment of bonds lost during

*capture of Fort William—irregularities in accounts of Bengal establishment—
instructions regarding treatment and allowances of King's troops—Anglo-French
engagement near Arcot—personnel of Secret Committee of Court of Directors.*

OUR President & Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We writ to you by the ships wh. have been already dispatched this season under the following dates viz. the 23 Nov. & 7 Dec. 1759, the 16 Jan. 6 & 15 Feb. 1760 as the first mentioned letter was sent in quadruplicate by different conveyances & all the rest in triplicate we cannot but suppose they will come to your hands long before this reaches Bengal wh. we send by the five ships now under dispatch the Prince Edward, Latham, Lord Anson, Sandwich & Admiral Watson.

2. The several letters from your Presidency wh. have been received since the 23 March 1759 when we writ to you by our ships of last season, are viz., General letters of the 26 August, 9th Nov. & 31st Dec. 1758 the 8th & 29th Jan. also the 8th Feb. & the 5th & 8th March 1759. From the Select Committee at your Presidency to our Secret Committee under dates of 10th Nov. & 31st Dec. 1758.

From President Clive to us of the 30th Dec. 1758.

From Mr. James Barton of the 30th Dec. 1758 also the 8th July & 5th March 1759.

And from Capt. Brohier dated the 31st Dec. 1758 & the 20th Feb. & the 8th March 1759.

3. Having thus informed you of the several letters received from & sent to your Presidency since the dispatch of our shipping last season we proceed in the usual manner to give such additional informations and directions, & make such observations upon your transactions as shall appear to be necessary by this dispatch & for the being better understood we shall refer in the margin to those parts of your letters wh. give rise to such observations.

First of Shipping

4. You have been already acquainted that 5 of the 6 China ships wh. had been chased off of St. Helena by 3 French Men-of-war & afterwards went to the Brasils, are safely arrived; the other the Tavistock being obliged soon after their sailing to return thither to stop a leak has not since been heard of, but we have no particular reason to be in pain for her safety.

5. As all our expected Ships of last season, except the Grantham & Tavistock are arrived we think ourselves very fortunate in having no other loss than of the first named ship considering the hazard they all run from the before mention'd French cruisers. The loss of the Grantham as you

have been already informed was owing to the Commander's Breach of Orders in going to the Cape, otherways in all probability that ship might have been added to the number of those wh. are happily arrived.

6. This season has begun with the agreeable news of the arrival of the ships, Pitt and Warren at Kinsale on the 23rd & 24th Feb. the first named was dispatched from Canton the 13th June & the other from Fort St. George on the 20th August, By the Warren we received no new letter from your Presidency.

7. The times of the arrival of our several ships will appear in the accompanying lists to wh. therefore you are referred.

8. In our letter of the 23rd of Nov. we gave you an account of the ships intended to be employed this season together with their several destinations. But as we have been under the necessity of making some variation as well by adding more ships as in altering the consignment of others, we now insert for your better information the following correct list, viz.

Burthen tons			
Onslow . . .	499	Thos. Hinde	Coast & Bay
Triton . . .	499	Francis Harris	St. Helena & China.
Caernarvon . . .	499	Norton Hutchinson	F. St. George & China
Princess Augusta . . .	499	Thos. Baddison	
Warwick . . .	499	James Dewar	
Norfolk . . .	499	Pinson Bonham	Bencoolen & China
D. of Richmond . . .	499	Benjn. Godfrey	
Royal Duke . . .	499	Peter Pigou	St. Helena & Bengal
Lord Mansfield . . .	499	Alex. Macleod	Coast & Bay
Falmouth . . .	499	James Dale	
Prince Edward . . .	499	James Haldane	
Latham . . .	499	James Moffatt	Bengal & Bombay
Lord Anson . . .	499	Ed. Lord Chick	
Sandwich . . .	499	Andrew Quicke	
Neptune . . .	499	John Purling	Bombay
York . . .	499	Peter Lascelles	
London . . .	499	John Webb	
Egmont . . .	499	Chas. Mears	

Company's Ships

Syren Snow . . .	100	Thos. Warner	Anjengo & Bombay
Adml. Watson . . .	400	Francis Fowke	Bengal
Earl Temple . . .	850	Wm. Foster	Bombay.

9. The Syren now sailed from Spithead on the 9th Dec. as did also the ships Onslow & Triton on the 15th of the same month but the two last named soon after parted in a severe gale of wind-the Triton, however, kept on her voyage but the Onslow was under the necessity of putting in at Plymouth to repair the damage she received, from whence she again proceeded on her voyage on the 28th Feb.

10. A long series of Easterly Winds has prevented the ships getting to Gravesend in time to answer the intentions of an early dispatch as advised in our letter of the 23rd Nov. this with other unavoidable impediments has retarded their departure from England very considerably-however, we have the pleasure of informing you that at last they sailed from Spithead as follows, viz. The Royal Duke for St. Helena, & Bengal on the 28th Feby. The Caernarvon, Princess Augusta & Warwick for Fort St. George & China-the Lord Mansfield and Falmouth for Fort St. George & Bengal together with the Norfolk & Duke of Richmond for Fort Marlboro' & China on the 7th March.

11. The ships Prince Edward, Latham, Lord Anson, Admiral Watson & Sandwich are now under dispatch & are consigned directly to Bengal. The Neptune, York, London, Egmont & Earl Temple will be dispatched in the month of April for Bombay.

12. You were informed in our letter of the 15th Feb. that His Majesty has been most graciously pleased to order a considerable military force to proceed to the East Indies for the assistance of the Company's several Presidencies, to the amount of 2000 men in the whole. The accommodating so large a body of men with a passage & the sending out a very great quantity of Stores for the Government Service, has occasioned our employing more ships this season than we otherwise should have done & we are sensible there will be some difficulty in finding cargoes for loading such of them home the season of their arrival, as are intended to be returned from our Presidencies. However, we shall depend upon the separate & joint endeavours of you & our Governors & Councils of Fort St. George & Bombay to send them all home in the season of their arrival, if possible, or to employ such as cannot be so returned in the most advantageous manner for the Interest of the Company agreeable to our repeated yearly recommendations on this head.

13. To explain wh. ships we mean should be returned to us from our Presidencies as before-mentioned we say, they are all those contained in the list inserted in the 8th Paragraph of this letter except such as are destined for China, also the Earl Temple, Admiral Watson & one of the Bombay Ships.

14. The Bombay ship so excepted is intended to be kept in India until the beginning of the year 1761, when she is to be the annual ship from the coast to China. The Company's own ship Earl Temple being bought

with a view principally to assist in transporting the troops, is to be disposed of in the East Indies agreeable to the directions wh. will be given for that purpose to the President & Council of Bombay. As to the Admiral Watson she is to be forwarded from your Presidency to Bombay from whence we shall give directions for her proceeding to Madagascar to provide a cargo of slaves for our settlements on the West Coast.

15. The ships of this season then wh. will be the more immediate objects of your care and attention are the Onslow, Royal Duke, Lord Mansfield, Falmouth, Prince Edward & Latham, for these we flatter ourselves, you will with the assistance of the Governor & Council of Fort St. George be able to provide returning cargoes.

16. It is to be observed that the Lord Anson & Sandwich two of the ships now proceeding to your Presidency are stationed for Bengal & Bombay, however, we shall leave it to you upon duly considering all circumstances either to send one or both of them home from your side of India or forward them to Bombay, if you determine upon the last measure in such case you are to dispatch them thither without loss of time after their soldiers & consignments are landed & delivered with cargoes of salt-petre & whatever else you shall judge will turn to the best account or you may freight them in part or the whole, in short you are to use your best endeavours to make their voyage to Bombay, as advantageous to the Company as possible.

17. Should it so happen that any other ship or ships will be more ready to proceed to Bombay, so as to make their passage home from thence the same season than the Lord Anson & Sandwich, you are at liberty to substitute such ship or ships in their room wh. we must suppose will be from among those wh. arrived the earliest in Bengal.

18. It is proper to observe in this place that the detention of ships in India a season extraordinary, is at all times attended with a most heavy expense in Demorage, but more particularly in this time of war. It will, therefore, be much more for the interest of the Company to avoid if possible such a measure by sending them home with their bare charter-party tonnage only or even somewhat dead-freighted; under the circumstance of having such a number of ships to provide cargoes for, these are liberties we cannot avoid giving you, wh. we hope, if you are under the necessity of carrying into execution it will be in a manner & degree that shall appear of the greatest utility to the Company.

19. The Admiral Watson as before observed being intended for a voyage from Bombay to Madagascar you are therefore as soon as the soldiers & consignments are landed to put on board her a cargo for that Presidency consisting of Salt-petre & whatever else you shall think proper, & dispatch her thither without loss of time.

20. In the 12th, 13th, 14th, & 15th Paragraphs of our letter of the 23rd Jan. 1759 we gave very full & plain directions with respect to the manner in wh. the Company's own ship the Royal George was to be employed, & as it is our intention & orders that the Admiral Watson shall be employed mostly upon the same plan after she has been at Madagascar, we therefore refer you thereto for your guidance in the management of the last named ship, after her said voyage in case she comes to your Presidency.

21. We have put aboard the Admiral Watson for the service of the ship during the course of the voyage to the amount of £400 in treasure, for wh. the commander is accountable. If therefore it shall appear unnecessary to continue all or any part thereof in the ship on her departure for England, you may receive the same, giving receipt for what shall be so received, but if she is not dispatched from Bengal, you are to give this intimation to our servants at such settlements from whence she shall be finally dispatched.

22. The Admiral Watson was in her late voyage dispatched from Bombay with a Cargo of very little value, whereas agreeable to our general orders she ought to have had such a loading as would have produced us a profit equivalent (or as nearly so as possible) to the expense of her voyage, & if one settlement could not have supplied her with such a loading she should have been sent to another. We mention this to prevent your running into the like inadvertency or error with the President & Council of Bombay, & you are to observe that to answer our intentions the Admiral Watson's cargo is to consist principally of Fine goods.

23. As we intend for the future to have the whole produce of pepper at all our Settlements on the West Coast annually reserved for & sent to China & none brought to England unless we should for reasons not at present appearing to us have occasion to alter our minds of wh. we shall give due notice. We have accordingly given the necessary directions to our Deputy Governor & Council of Ft. Marlbro'. We, therefore, confirm the orders we gave you in our letter of the 23rd Nov. last for your not sending any ships to the West Coast to complete or take in any part of their cargoes for Europe that our plan may not at any time be disconcerted.

24. We hereby order & direct that you observe it as a standing rule in future that all vessels dispatched by you or wh. proceed to the West Coast, be positively ordered to go directly to Fort Marlbro' & not to call at or go to any places on that coast without leave in writing from the Deputy Governor & Council.

25. In our letter of the 23rd Nov. we informed you of a new clause in the Charterparties with respect to the Adjustment of & payment for damages & goods lost and undelivered since that time. The owners of the Norfolk & Triton at their particular desire have a liberty in their Charterparties to pay the value of their damage or deficiencies in India if demanded,

Therefore, the clauses in those ships' charterparties must be your guide in case you shall happen to have any transactions with them.

26. We have on the application of several of the Commanders of the outward bound ships this season consented to their taking the value of £ 30 or £40 each in trading guns, shot & flints for purchasing provisions at Madagascar in case they shall be under the necessity of calling there. You will find by the respective ship's manifests of private trade wh. particular Commanders have been indulged in this respect that if they shall not have disposed of such articles for refreshments, you are agreeable to their engagements to demand & receive them at prime cost.

27. Besides the General Council whose names you were advised of in our letter of the 23rd Nov. for transacting our affairs at Canton for the ships arriving in the season of the year 1760 We have appointed Mr. Lockwood during his stay in China, Mr. Fitzhugh, if there, Messrs. Blount, Kinnersley & Francis Wood to transact several important matters wh. have been usually left in charge with our superior supra-cargoes & in case of the absence of the two former then the three last named are fixed on as our residents in China with Mr. Flint for the year 1761. As these gentlemen are in the nature of a Select Committee, such a correspondence is to be kept with them as may be necessary for the Company's interest, & in particular that is the Channel for whatever may be of a secret nature, & as we shall name residents or such select supra cargoes from year to year there will be always some on the spot to be addressed to, whenever conveyances offer.

28. Altho' from the late repulse of the French in their attempt upon Fort St. George¹ & their distressed condition in general we flatter ourselves with the safety of that settlement, yet should it so happen, contrary to our expectations, that the enemy are in possession of it & in consequence of such an Event, the ships bound thither shall come to Bengal, you are to take such measures as according to the best of your judgment shall appear to be most for the Company's Interest with respect to the disposition of such ships, should any of the China ships in particular be under this circumstance they must be forwarded as soon as possible to Canton with as much treasure as you can possibly spare, in short as we are providing against wants wh. we hope will never happen there can be no particular or precise directions given, we must, therefore, if they should fall out, depend upon your discretion to act for the best according to the circumstances of the case, & the respective Commanders are accordingly to follow such orders wh. you may think proper to give them.

29. Your caution in having fire boats, & prepared to remove the buoys & destroy all marks, if the enemy had attempted your river meets our approbation, we find they are since sold off as useless but the reasons are omitted.

30. We observe you purchased the Loo & Watson for the expedition to Vizagapatam; you should have added their cost, Burthen & age for our information.

31. We very much approve of the many regulations in the Marine Department & from Capt. Barton's abilities^a, experience & zeal for our service, we are persuaded there will be an entire & very advantageous reform.

32. From the character you give us of Mr. Alex. Scott we very readily confirm your nomination, that he succeed Capt. Barton as master-attendant, but to no other of that gentleman's appointments.

33. You did very right in returning Capt. James Ward the Thanks of the Board in consequence of Col. Forde's request for his good behaviour to the officers & men who were passengers on his ship, & we shall have a due regard to your recommendation of him, at the same time we shall show a suitable resentment against Capt. Samson if upon examination into his conduct he shall appear to deserve it.

34. As Capt. Durand did not comply with his contract with respect to the ship Restitution we are well satisfied with your proceedings in refusing to pay him the 45,000 C.Rs. indemnification money in case of her being seized by the French wh. actually happened, & we depend upon your care for defending us against his claim in the suit commenced in the Mayor's Court on that account.

35. Your sending to Europe as many of the French prisoners as possible upon our ships was a right measure, but we must observe that we have been put to a difficulty in adjusting some claims on the French Company on their account for want of a true description of them, as to their real names & the places of their birth or usual residence, those in the lists transmitted to us being generally either petitions or nicknames. We take notice of this that on any future occasion you may send us regular lists.

Indly of Goods from Europe, or from one part of India to another

36. We gave you in our letter of the 23rd Nov. a general view of our export this season as well to every other part of India & China as to your Presidency the particulars of the several consignments to you will appear by the invoices of such ships as have been already dispatched and those now on their departure to which therefore you are referred.

37. The mercantile part of our export is far short of our intentions from the necessity we are under to find tonnage for the great quantities of Government stores laden on the Fort S. George and Bombay ships, also for transporting His Majesty's forces to each presidency, however we have done our best in supplying you as far as circumstances could possibly admit of.

38. For the reasons given in our letter of the 23rd of November we send no other treasure this season than to China and Fort Marlborough, we shall therefore depend upon your properly and effectually supplying our presidencies of Fort S. George and China agreeable to the directions in our said letter.

39. In that letter the quantities of treasure were left in blank, we are, therefore, now to inform you that the ships Triton, Norfolk and Duke of Richmond [are] carrying in the whole 123 chests to Canton, and the two last named have also on board 10 chests each consigned to Fort Marlbro'.

40. We have received by the ships of this season some gold mohurs and sicca rupees coined in your mint which we have caused to be assayed at the Tower, how they came out in respect to fineness will appear by our accountant's remarks now transmitted to you, but being entirely unacquainted what the weight and fineness of those coins should be, you must therefore, by the first opportunity send us an exact account of your standard weight and fineness for all your coins respectively, especially of the sorts before-mentioned as a matter essentially necessary for our information.

41. Having taken under our consideration a paragraph of the general letter from the President and Council of Fort S. George, dated the 10th of October, 1758, wherein they say "They have for several years past received repeated complaints from the mint undertakers that the dollars delivered to them to be coined have been for a considerable time decreasing in the touch and therefore, that they could not coin them on the same terms as formerly. The said President and Council add that they had ordered an assay to be made, upon the report of which it appeared that the square dollars which at the time of the contract with their minters were three dwts. [penny weight] worse than standard turned out five dwts. worse, and the round dollars which according to the same contract should be four dwts. worse proved $5\frac{1}{2}$ dwts. worse than standard." We made an enquiry in our bullion office here, and find that for many years past assays have been made at the Tower of London both of Mexico and Pillar dollars and on taking the average of the same we find that as single pieces of both species have been separately tried, the Pillar, (or what the said President and Council call the square dollars) are somewhat better than the Mexico (or what they call the round dollars), yet as large quantities of the former are very badly cleansed and have more dirt and other impurities adhering to them than the latter, we are informed that when each specie has been melted into separate ingots, they have come out on the assay nearly the same; and this we estimate on the nicest computation to be at five dwts. worse than standard. At this value we have directed the President and Council of Fort S. George in future to deliver the same to their mint undertakers, and we have acquainted them that if we shall hereafter observe any material alteration in the fineness of dollars, we will give them our directions herein, till then this is to be esteemed the true and real value of all the Spanish dollars whether Mexico or Pillars they shall from time to time receive from us.

42. Although we have not for some time past sent any treasure to Bengal, yet it is necessary you should be informed of our said directions to Fort S. George that you may also confirm thereto with respect to the value of the before mentioned Spanish dollars which you are hereby directed to do until you receive our orders to the contrary.

43. The President and Council of Fort S. George inform us that they received from you by the Boscawen, Grantham and Fox, 75 chests of silver and 2 of gold, that the uncommon deficiencies which the commanders of those ships have paid for, agreeable to our standing orders, obliges them in justice to them and the owners of the said ships to take notice that the chests, were in general packed so negligently that they rather wonder the deficiency was not larger : few of them with hoops, some but slightly tacked down & covered with gunny, and the dollars loose in many of them. We take it for granted our said President and Council have given you due notice of this affair, for our parts we insist upon your acquainting us who the persons were, who packed the said treasure & you are in our names to give them a severe reprimand for their great carelessness.

44. From the large quantities of stores for his Majesty's service and the transporting his troops as before observed, we have been obliged to lade several articles for Fort S. George (as will be noticed in the invoices) on the Prince Edward, Latham, & Anson. we strictly enjoin you to forward them to that presidency by the first safe conveyances.

45. The same is to be observed in respect to 2 cases and one cask of clothing on board the Latham for the use of Captain Alex.^r Campbell's Company of Royal Artillery at Fort S. George which is much wanted there.

46. A quantity of clothing for the same detachment of Royal Artillery was shipped in 1757 on the Elizabeth which was delivered to you by Capt. Burdett, we must suppose you have not been wanting to send it to Fort S. George long before this letter will come to your hands, however, should it have been omitted, you must forward it thither without fail, by the first safe conveyance.

47. We have provided the materials for the clothing of our infantry and artillery officers agreeable to their request to you and have shipped the same on the Latham and Lord Anson, you are to take care that we are reimbursed the prime cost of the said clothing, to which must also be added an advance of 15 per cent as a reasonable profit for the interest and risk of our money. Though we have indulged them therein at present, yet having for good reasons refused our other presidencies, in this respect, you are not to expect a future consignment of this sort, therefore let provision be otherwise made accordingly.

48. Your indents for copper are complied with, in point of quantity particularly that in imitation of the Japan sortment, but you will not receive any copper this year for battery and brass uses, marked either Swan or IH as we have not purchased any of the proprietors of those two sorts. The marks of the different sortments of Copper will be particularized in the invoices as desired.

49. There is consigned to you on the Sandwich, about 100 tons of copper, if it cannot be disposed of to advantage in Bengal, you are to send it to the presidency of Bombay, on that ship or any other proper conveyance.

50. The indent for marine stores is complied with as far as the room in the ships bound to the Bay will admit of. We also have given orders for loading 76 tons of cordage on these ships besides the 32 tons by the Onslow, if we fail in sending this quantity, it is owing to the persons we have contracted with not fulfilling their engagements in time; however, a considerable quantity there certainly will be, for the particulars whereof, we refer you to the invoices. Out of this large supply, we recommend it to you to send a part to Bombay where all marine stores in general will be greatly wanted, it being much to be feared the ships bound to that part of India will have little or no room for such stores on account of the great quantities of victualling, naval and ordnance stores they carry for his Majesty's squadron, and the transport of the King's Troops as has been before observed.

51. That part of the naval indent for anchors from 20 cwt. to 32 cwt. are not sent for the reasons given in the 37th para : of your letter by the Ilchester.

52. Capt. Brohier's indent of military stores by the Ilchester would have been fully complied with as well as the deficiency of that by the Diligent schooner if the situation of public affairs would have permitted it, but we are not able this season to send near the number of light iron 12-pounders he has indented for, most of the other articles are now sent with a few others which were provided in consequence of an indent delivered to us by Capt. Paschaud before the receipt of Mr. Brohier's. Among these three small mortars of 3 $\frac{1}{4}$, 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ and 3 inches are the principal which were directed to be made as there appears to be several shells of those natures in your stores.

53. As the sending iron work for the light iron 12-pounders the same as field carriages with timbers should be attended with very extraordinary expense to the amount of at least £2000, we have thought proper to order the iron work to be made for garrison carriages on the same construction as those which are now used in his Majesty's service, and which it is conceived will answer all the ends of field carriages in garrison service; the same being recommended by the Board of Ordnance from whence the 2 pattern carriages were received which now go on the Prince Edward and Latham. But notwithstanding the foregoing we have ordered 40 sets of iron work for field carriages with timbers agreeable to Capt. Brohier's indent one half whereof go on the ships of this season, wh. is not only as many as could be provided, but are more than in proportion to the guns which have been made.

54. Capt. Brohier's indent for necessaries for the new buildings in the citadel and for all others at Calcutta are fully complied with.

55. To answer present exigencies we now send you about 20 tons of musket balls, but as moulds are now also sent you must in future expect only lead for making them at Calcutta.

56. We have caused the Company's mark to be engraved on the barrel, lock and bayonet of the small arms sent you this season and shall continue this method in future.

57. The Bombay Castle and S. George were particularly intended to carry men with all kind of stores to Calcutta. Men we sent you ; but the national affairs were at that time so unhappy, the Government's demands for all military and naval articles so urgent and extraordinary, that no price could procure them, and therefore if your fortifications remained useless, it reflected no odium upon your employers, but surely your uncandid animadversions were carried too far for with all the cannon and military stores of Calcutta, the considerable acquisition of cannon & military articles from Chandernagore, could it with justice be asserted, that your fortifications must remain useless? If you had said incomplete, we then should have allowed that part of your para : to have been a fair and a modest representation.

58. We have acquainted our Deputy Governor & Council of Fort Marlbro' that we shall direct our presidencies to forward to them such Guns, shot & other Garrison stores as they can spare. In case therefore they should at any time apply to you for those articles agreeable to the directions we have given them, you are to furnish them in the best manner you are able.

59. You must take care to supply our servants on the West Coast of Sumatra with whatever articles they shall from time to time indent for on the Company's account either for use or sale, and as we have appointed a Select Committee at Fort Marlbro' whose names are given you under the 6th head, if therefore that Committee applies to you or the Select Committee at your presidency to be supplied with any article in consequence of some directions they have for that purpose, a particular attention must be given to such their applications.

60. We are putting ourselves to a very heavy expense in securing & protecting our settlements on the Island of Sumatra, & to the praise of our servants at Bencoolen^s; they have manifested their zeal & disinterestedness in pointing out advantages we may secure to ourselves, though to the prejudice of their own commerce. We are therefore to acquaint you that the trade of opium to our settlements at Sumatra & contiguous we reserve to ourselves; & you are to make these our orders public, & let it be known that whoever is found to trade thither with Opium after this notice, the same will be seized, and the offenders forfeit our service or protection; & these orders are to continue in force, until the situation of our affairs there will admit of an abolition. You are to direct the Chief at Patna to secure annually for our account 50 chests of the best Opium, & the same you are to forward yearly to our Governor and Council of Fort Marlborough, but should they either before or after you receive this letter indent for a larger quantity you are always to comply with their request. This we apprehend will in no degree affect the trade of Bengal, Because the merchant is only restrained from carrying opium to or contiguous to our settlement ; he is still at liberty to trade with any quantities to the strait of Malacca, Borneo, Java, and all other parts of India.

61. By the ships of last season & this the medicines & drugs for the use of the Company's factories & garrisons of Bengal, Fort S. George & Bombay have been & are supplied by the persons and society under-mentioned in the following proportions, viz.

By Messrs. Silvanus & J. Brown	.	.	.	.	6-tenths
„ Alex. Johnston & Co.	.	.	.	.	3-tenths
The Company of Apothecaries	.	.	.	.	1-tenths

The medicines & drugs consigned to you are therefore distinguished accordingly, on purpose that we may be informed of the goodness & quality of those respectively furnished by the said parties, for our future Government in the provision of them. You are therefore to cause the most exact enquiry to be made as to their goodness & quality, & send us an impartial report of the result by the first opportunity.

62. It being impossible to supply you with quantities of gunpowder from England in any degree adequate to your want of that article, & as you desire some persons well skilled in the whole apparatus of that manufacture may be sent to your Presidency, we have entertained William Smith as gunpowder maker at your Presidency at £170 a year & Robert Smith as his assistant at £100 a year to commence from the time of their arrival in full for wages, diet money & all other allowances except House-rent & we recommend it to you with respect to the latter that you provide convenient apartments for them near the Works at the Company's Expense. We hope Wm. Smith will answer the purpose of his being sent out not only from the character we have had of him as a gunpowder maker; but as we have been at the expense of his learning to refine brimstone & burn charcoal. The said two men take passage on the Lord Anson, & by that Ship we send the models of a horse-mill, corning and dusting houses, a gunpowder press & several other materials for the works; also on the recommendation of William Smith we send by the same ship a model of a horsemill on new construction to work two pair of stones with the same cattle as one pair, the utility whereof must be left to your determination. We have not been able to procure the mill-stones in time to be sent by the ships this season.

63. We are to pay to the wife of William Smith the Sum of £30 after his departure from England; you are therefore, to stop that sum out of his growing salary in such a manner as may be most convenient to him.

64. Some samples of Cornish tin are sent by the ship Admiral Watson. We earnestly recommend it to you to make a particular enquiry how it will answer for the Bengal market, what price it may sell for & the quantity wh. can be annually disposed of—as we are always extremely desirous of increasing the vend of this Kingdom's product we shall expect you will encourage the export of this article to the utmost of your power.

65. The sales of our broad cloth & copper are very pleasing; of the latter we now send you a sufficient quantity, as mentioned in a preceding

para. but your letters did not reach us in time to make such an investment of cloth as we could wish; nor indeed have we now room for our mercantile articles ; but in future you may expect an ample supply. You did well in advising the presidencies of Madras and Bombay that ordinary cloths & perpets could be vended to advantage at Bengal.

66. In our remarks upon Mr. Pearkes's conduct at Patna under the 6th head, we have taken notice of a part of a letter from that gentleman, wherein he asserts that some of our servants have unfairly encroached upon our vend of woollen goods. This is so striking an abuse, that we have there made the necessary animadversions & laid down some rules for your future Government with respect to our woollen trade, wh. had they not been connected with our observations on Mr. Pearkes's conduct, would have properly fallen under this head. You are therefore, to have reference to that part of our letter for our sentiments and directions on this subject.

67. We are so much distressed for tonnage that our mercantile concerns are kept back to make room for his Majesty's Stores & provisions with the military & naval articles for our settlements. We therefore, can spare no ship for Madeira wine as you have been already informed in our letter of the 23rd November.

68. The prevention of frauds in the collecting of our customs we hope, will in future be very faithfully attended to. We have already animadverted upon the behaviour of Messrs. Becher & Smith though not with the severity they appear to merit. In future we are determined to dismiss all aggressors from our service, as well as the connivers. But why will you deviate from our directions without assigning your reasons? In our plan of regulations for this branch by the Warren you were ordered to appoint a sea-custom-master in whose jurisdiction were to centre all mercantile imports, no merchandise or bullion to be landed but by permission from this custom-master upon pain of forfeiture, and we add that "the sea-custom-master may if you think it necessary have guard boats assigned him from the marine to patrol the river nightly." Instead of this you tell us that all sloops or boats with private trade are ordered to be examined & inspected by the import warehouse-keeper or people employed by him, before the goods are landed; we by no means approve of this innovation; it's our custom-master's province, & we will suffer no other officer to interfere with his branch.

Thirdly of Investments

69. We now send you a list of the investment to be made in Bengal the ensuing season with such observations & directions as could arise under the circumstance of the late arrival of your ships, & in consequence thereof that as yet only the cargoes by the Ilchester & Prince George have been put up to sale, should any thing material occur before the departure of these ships we shall either take notice thereof by way of supplement or in a separate account to be herewith transmitted to you.

70. In the said list we have observed that the goods by the Ilchester are very well approved, but the very great damage occasioned by the bad weather wh. that ship unfortunately met with greatly abates our profit on her cargoes. The Prince George's goods come out pretty free from damage & we hope to find the other ships will do the same.

71. We have acquainted the President & Council of Fort St. George that if it should not be in their power to provide the long-cloth ordinary in the quantities mentioned in our list of investments to be made on that coast they are to write to you to send us as many Gurrahs over & above those already ordered as will make up for their deficiency in ordinary long-cloths, wh. notice you are accordingly to comply with.

72. As to saltpetre you are to provide sufficient quantities for the ships to be dispatched directly home from your Presidency, as likewise to enable our other Presidencies to dispatch those on their hands wh. they are accordingly to be supplied with by all proper conveyances. The quantity to be laden on each ship must be left to your discretion as it will depend upon the number of ships for wh. cargoes are to be provided. If you can do it a surplus tonnage is to be laden, but you are to observe to let every ship be as nearly as possible upon an equal footing.

73. The saltpetre we used to receive, even so far back as to about the year 1755, generally refracted or lost in refining from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, whereas from the more than usual quantity of salt & dirt, more particularly the former, in all the saltpetre for some time past imported, the refraction has been seldom less than 8 or $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, & in some lately received it amounts to 10 per cent at least. This is a double loss to the Company, both with respect to the prime cost & freight, as we are very apprehensive no abatement is made for such difference in the fineness, & in the latter case, the loss is too evident to need an explanation. But this debasement in the quality will in all probability be attended with this further bad circumstance, that the dealers in this commodity will give the preference to that now imported in large quantities from Dantsic & Russia wh. seldom or ever retracts more than 2 per cent & free from salt. To preserve so considerable a branch of trade, you must in all future purchases of saltpetre have a particular regard to its being as free as possible from salt & dirt, & if you can purchase it refined or cause it to be so afterwards, it will save us from paying freight for such large quantities of trash of no manner of use or value, as we have lately done, wh. is therefore recommended to your most serious attention & care.

74. We must here remark that Prunea [Purnea] or Brown petre of wh. none has been sent us for some years, is by much the best & strongest, & will therefore be more eligible to be provided, if that sortment is now to be had.

75. We highly commend your attention & regard to our interest in giving directions as soon as you heard of the loss of Fort St. David⁴ for

the increase of the ordinary sortments of your investments, in some measure to make up for the disappointment. You rightly judged that misfortune would occasion in the investments from that coast.

76. Your intentions for providing an investment at Vizagapatam upon the arrival of the forces under the command of Col. Ford at that place likewise shows your vigilance & care & therefore meets with our entire approbation.

77. Obtaining an exclusive perwannah for the saltpetre^s was a very wise measure & must prove highly advantageous to us, & sparing the Dutch a part when it was in your power was a prudent step for many obvious reasons, but as you exclude the Danes from any share lest they should supply the French may it not be right to tie down the Dutch that they shall be obliged to carry the whole to Europe? The Dutch protest upon this occasion you treated very properly.

78. As there is very good reason to believe from the knowledge and abilities of Mr. Wilder in the raw silk manufacture that he will prove of signal use to the Company, you did very right in complying with his request for remaining at Cossimbuzar another season to complete his intended regulations.

Fourthly, of the Trade of India, Transactions relative to the European Powers, Country Government etc.

79. In our letter of the 24 Feb: we informed you that some steps were taken towards holding a Congress to restore peace, but that there was little prospect of so happy an event's soon taking place & that the French were preparing to make a vigorous effort this year to retrieve their honour & make some acquisitions to enable them to treat on peace upon more equal terms than they think they can at present expect. On the part of Great Britain such vigorous measures are pursuing as it is hoped' with the Divine assistance will be crowned with success & reduce the enemy to a condition wh. may be productive of a general peace.

80. In that letter we also mentioned that the views & designs of the French seemed to be confined principally to Europe & that we had the satisfaction therefore of observing that there is little reason to suppose they can send any force to the East Indies this season, at least none wh. can ballance the superiority of the British Naval force in those parts. Two French Frigates each of 32 guns named the Malicieux and Opal bound from Brest to the East Indies were spoken with lately to the westward of Scilly & as these are the only ships we have had any certain intelligence of, it is some confirmation of our opinion that no considerable force is gone to the East Indies this season. However it behoves you to be constantly on your guard & attentive to prevent any attempts of the enemy upon any part of our

Trade possessions and privileges in your department in particular or wherever else they may bend their present force so far as your circumstances will admit of it.

81. By the last advices from Fort St. George we have the pleasure of observing that the strength, power and influence of the French are greatly upon the decline upon that whole coast, & here we must in justice to you take notice that you have greatly contributed thereto by sending so very opportunely the forces under the command of Col. Forde⁶ to the Deccan Country, whose success has answered the most sanguine expectations. This transaction therefore cannot but meet with our entire approbation.

82. Although we have received no letters from you by the Warren, yet we have had an agreeable information from the President & Council of Fort St. George by that ship, that a letter had been received from Col. Clive dated upon the banks of the Caramnassa the 27th April giving an account he had marched thither in order to punish such Rajahs as were concerned in the party of the Mogul's son who after his fruitless attack of Patna was deserted by most of his friends, & was at that time wandering about the Country with a few followers amongst them Mr. Law with the remains of the French wh. escaped with him after the capture of Chandernagore⁷. This agreeable circumstance, it is hoped, will greatly contribute to the tranquillity of the Country, an object of the utmost importance and which you must always have in view & establish it by every prudent measure in your power.

83. The President and Council of Fort St. George inform us likewise by the Warren that Mr. John Herbert by a letter from Batavia dated 11th May acquainted them that the Dutch were preparing an armament wh. they gave out to be designed for the coast of Choromandel, consisting of 1000 Europeans & 1500 Buggeese, the said President & Council add they wish they may have nothing more in view than the protection of their Settlement on the Coast against the French, the checks their trade in Bengal has met with giving some apprehensions of intentions that way for wh. however they say they have no grounds. They add that when they have certain accounts of the Nature & destination of this armament, if it is for Bengal they will immediately send you a reinforcement. By private advices we learn the same Dutch ships were actually at Negapatam.

84. Capt. Scott of the Warren has also informed us that on the 11th Jan. last in the latitude of 2 deg. 40 min. N. he spoke with a Dutch ship outward bound for India, the Capt. whereof said he sailed two months before from Amsterdam in Company with five more ships & that each of them had 350 people aboard 200 of whom were soldiers.

85. Although you must long before this have received certain advices of the said Dutch Armament & probably also of their intentions, yet we have given this short account of what we at present know of this affair that

we may express our hopes that if the Dutch have any design to embarrass our affairs in Bengal you have taken such prudent measures in concert with our Presidency of Fort St. George as will effectually disconcert their schemes especially as from what is before observed the Governor & Council of Fort St. George have a watchful eye upon their conduct. We can hardly suppose they will venture upon open hostilities, & if they intended as it has been surmised to have joined the Mogul's rebel son they have been disappointed in that scheme as has been before observed his party has been dispersed by the arrival of Col. Clive at Patna.

86. When your capital fortification Calcutta is in a respectable state, we cannot but think you may be in a condition to defend & give effectual assistance to your friends yourselves against any Town & that this alone must perpetuate your influence with the Country powers. Still as your opinion wh. is positive does not admit it, & you pronounce so strongly, that a fortification on Burrampore Plains is absolutely necessary to secure our interest & protect our friends we give up to your judgments in a firm persuasion that you will exercise great economy in the erecting this fort, wh. you say shall cost us but a trifle, & establish the garrison charges in the most moderate manner, & indeed we are the more inclined to adhere to your sentiments, as the amazing chicanery of the Nabob to deprive us of the Territories he solemnly had engaged to grant by treaty⁸, fully convinces us that no motives of gratitude but force alone, must preserve our acquisition.

87. We replied last year to the transaction of lending so large a sum to the Navy & Army. We ever believed that your apprehension of disgusting the squadron was the governing motive; however, errors in judgement where no intention of injuring us appears, are & will be, always excused.

88. The obtaining the Luckipore Zemindary has our approbation, since, by your description, not only a revenue arises, but there is the prospect of future mercantile advantages, & we thank you for this as well as other similar instances of attention to our interest.

89. The Dutch in their dispute concerning the ship St. Anne appeared very much in character; their demand was certainly unjust & their insolence treated by you with a contempt that gives us great satisfaction.

90. Notwithstanding the pains taken to justify yourselves for the heavy expense you have put us to in entertaining the Nabob, we cannot but highly condemn your lavishness. That it was right & proper to invite the Nabob to Calcutta, that he should be treated in a manner suitable to his dignity & that a pretty collection of curiosities in addition to the presents your employers had sent him, we allow would have been prudent & becoming, but you have really wantonly thrown away our money, and at a time when you know our unavoidable expences are enormously great. Nor

can we help remarking the pitiful idea this Nabob must entertain of the Company, who sent him a grateful present for their acquisitions and to secure his future friendship, but not half so valuable as that which their servants have made him for the honour of a visit.

91. Although we must ever discourage the lending our money, yet will not condemn you for advancing two laack of rupees to the Nabob, because we believe you deemed it an act of necessity & your argument that it might facilitate the Sunnud certainly has weight, but pray be very cautious how you open such a door again, & we must add, that the Nabob's poverty greatly surprises us.

92. We do not think it would have been a prudent step to destroy the houses of the inhabitants of Chandernagore, demolishing & razing the fortifications was certainly sufficient, but we wish we had no just cause to complain of the great expense attending the demolition.

93. Although we agree with you it was a difficult task to restrain the Black Inhabitants returning to Calcutta, yet so far would have been but an act of justice & perhaps good policy, to have excluded those from the Nabob's donation who had to your knowledge been base & iniquitous in the late calamities, & indeed under such circumstances, no regard should have been paid to colour.

Fifthly of Fortifications, Buildings & Revenues

94. With respect to the lands ceded to us Mr. Frankland's letter is too prolix & not very intelligible, but his account of the different pergunnahs the grounds & the revenues are judicious & clear; the barren & untenanted lands are very extensive, but thro' your care & attention we shall hope for large increased improvements. Cocoanut trees will grow in most soils, though Bengal we fear is full northerly for them. We recommend it however to your consideration. Many tracts may be proper for salt, others for paddy & some may suit the sugar-cane, but as these are matters of such importance to the future prosperity of Calcutta, we will not doubt of your most assiduous application and we shall entirely and confidentially depend upon you. We do not wish to grasp at more than may be equitable or give umbrage to a superstitious & bigotted people; but if among the great parcels of lands assigned to priests & idols abuses through neglect may have crept in, such only, we desire you will cut off. In the collection of these revenues near 8000 servants are yearly employed whose wages amount to near 60,000 rupees per annum exclusive of large portions of land; this is from ten to fifteen per cent upon the revenues, & here perhaps there may be room for regulations, but still if this has been established by ancient custom, & a reform may hazard uneasiness or bring an odium upon us; this is not desired.

95. In all great & extensive branches there should be many checks, & although, we do not doubt the honour & fidelity of our servants, yet we have frequently suffered from their inattention & remissness, & in so

copious a field for invention & improvement, we cannot be too careful in methodizing a suitable plan.

96. We, therefore, direct that these new acquisitions be placed under the management of a Committee, to consist of 5 persons (the second for the time being to be the head, together with, at least, two others of Council,) observing that the President is to take the lead whenever he sees it necessary & all applications to or disputes with the country powers are to pass through his authority alone; regular books are to be kept & heads opened for the different pergunahs, their produce, revenues, charges, receipts & payments, these transactions to be introduced upon the general books under the head of rents & revenues of the new lands; regular diaries to be kept of their transactions, entering all observations & necessary remarks; the whole to be transmitted us annually. It will be necessary that you appoint a covenant servant as secretary & accountant to this Committee.

97. Their monthly or quarterly accounts are to be delivered, the Committee of accounts with their diary to be inspected & supervised, who are to certify their opinion; such accounts are then to be laid before the Board, & when approved & passed in Council, they are to be delivered [to] the accountant, who must then, & not before, bring them upon the general books. This regulation will not affect the collector of rents & revenues, who must still have under his charge (unless you have objections) the same confined districts that were under our Zemindar before the loss of Calcutta.

98. You are certainly right to order an exact measurement of all our new acquired lands, but we hope more than one person, & at no great Expense, such persons if they have judgment, may from their observation of the different grounds, be able to furnish you with many beneficial hints; & if they strike out new advantages we shall not be unmindful of their merit. Sensible & judicious is your conduct in pursuing lenitive measures & easing the tenants of real oppression & burthensome Taxes; by adopting these salutary maxims, our acquisitions, & Calcutta also, will in time, be filled with numerous & useful subjects, attached to our Government from interest & affection, & the English name be as much revered & respected, as it has of late years been deservedly despised & detested, & to our late President Colonel Clive, we chiefly ascribe this merit. Mr. Vansittart receives a peculiar mark of our confidence & we have that high opinion of his character, as we believe he will steadily adhere to our interests & that of the community, for they are inseparable & he may depend we will ever support him in all just measures.

99. The pergunnah of Corry Jurie that yielded formerly forty lacks & now only 2,925 rupees we agree, is a most striking instance of Governments oppressions, or such vast tracts of country could not have become a desert, & we remark with pleasure that you are determined to give suitable attention to this important branch of our acquisitions to render this Country habitable & to people it are your great objects. The inhabitants of Bengal

in numbers we fear cannot be tempted to such a residence; but suppose you cast your view more distant, at Surat & to the northward Cambay etc. are many thousand families in a most miserable state from the tyranny & cruelty of Government, these may gladly wish to change their present deplorable situation for a happier & they are generally stout, hardy & brave, this measure we will recommend to our presidency of Bombay, & do you state to them the encouragements you think right and prudent. When we have taken proper care of the west coast of Sumatra, you shall have Coffrees, & if practicable Chinese—with the latter you are not to meddle until you have our liberty, unless you can procure them from Batavia & other places not belonging to China, & with these you have full latitude.

100. We were misunderstood in the 152nd Paragraph of the letter by the Warren quoted by you. The inhabitants of Bombay pay no customs on tobacco, but it is the farmer that pays the customs & he alone sells tobacco at a price regulated by the Governor & Council. With respect to salt, you only are the judges whether it ought to be farmed at all, we do not recommend it, as we agree with you it is a great essential with the poor inhabitants. At Bombay the salt is farmed being the produce of that Island, but then the Governor & Collector always fix the selling price to the inhabitants on very moderate terms; & as salt is a great article of trade with the southern territories they very easily levy a duty of twenty per cent upon all the export, to prevent the inhabitants suffering from a scarcity. Establish therefore this branch in a manner that may appear to you equitable, always remembering that if any part of our revenues tends to distress the poor, it is our intention that they should be abolished. At the same settlement with all kinds of grain, the imports are encouraged & only three per cent custom charged but if grain is expected six per cent is levied. We recommend this practice to your consideration as a certain method to secure plenty to the poor of Calcutta, for it is such a lucrative trade, subject to so few obstacles, that the exports are often beyond reason creating such distresses, that the inhabitants of no well-governed Colony ought ever to feel.

101. We are promised your sentiments by the next ships respecting the traders' request to be relieved from paying us 4 per cent customs. Your opinion indeed seems already determined, as you say two per cent only, justly collected, will yield us a very handsome revenue. We can but admire that such a crude, incoherent piece as this letter of the merchants should escape your observation. It is below us to debate the several points, but if you should assign us no better reasons than theirs, for relinquishing the duties, we shall be greatly dissatisfied. Our Presidents and Councils & their employers are much indebted to their men of consequence, for rectifying errors & abuses & regulating our system of trade, but we must seriously warn you to beware of encouraging such levelling liberties, for they will sap your own authority.

102. The real grievances & clogs to the fair trader are well known to you all. These removed every merchant would cheerfully submit to the moderate

duties we have directed to be levied, & this is conferred [confirmed?] by the principal subscribers to the Merchants' letter now in England. The hardships we mean are the gross & iniquitous abuses that spring from the power of the Dusticks, they being confined to our covenanted servants trade has been subjected to very heavy impositions. It is a well known fact, can be proved abroad & also in England that our Chiefs at subordinates gain full twenty per cent upon the goods they provide the private trader, & often exclusive of commission so that the merchant carries his goods to Market at an advance perhaps of twenty-five per cent upon their value in Bengal. The black merchants they apply to our junior servants & for valuable considerations, receive their goods covered with our servants names—even a writer trades in this manner, for many thousands, when at the same time he has often not real credit for a hundred rupees. For the truth of these assertions we need only appeal to yourselves. This then is the stream from whence have flown numberless mischiefs, perhaps the capital cause of your late dreadful misfortunes: to better trade is opposite to all good policy, and we believe Calcutta the only colony where manufactures are locked up from the merchant. We therefore must—we will have a reform in this important branch, if it is even at the expence of that Phirmaund privilege,⁹ for commerce is ruined by those unfair practices. The merchant can bear no more and fearful to speak out, demurs to our just duties & ascribes his inability to remote causes, the Government annually defrauded of immense duties & even their subjects property covered by the Company's name, must ever look upon us as a vile & faithless people, strangers to honour & (we must now add) gratitude; such are the consequences resulting from the abuse of a privilege obtained at a very heavy expence for our particular advantage. In the regulating this branch we wish to maintain a respectable character, secure the Government from being injured & preserve to the fair trader such freedom & benefits, as are common to all our other settlements & which he certainly has a right to; it is not in our power to obviate all difficulties, but whoever points out the remedy to fix trade upon an equitable basis, he may depend upon receiving signal marks of our favour. Perhaps the Nabob may find it his interest to settle for a certain annual sum upon the general trade, his own subjects included which will be farming the commercial duties dependent upon Calcutta. This scheme must, we apprehend, answer every just purpose; it removes all cause of contention with the Government; dusticks will be abolished; the merchant will gladly employ & cheerfully allow our servants a reasonable commission & interest for the provision of his goods; but if more than five per cent commission is charged upon complaint, he is to be redressed & the Company will be reimbursed the annual sum. They may pay for farming the general duties by an additional import of two or more per cent on the goods brought down by Europeans & a larger duty on what may be imported by the Indians, & if the amount should exceed the annual sum stipulated with the Nabob, we are willing to add the surplus to our President's small emoluments. If this plan should take place, let us view the trader's situation; he is relieved from the present exaction of 20 to

25 per cent, he will pay 5 per cent commission on his goods, two per cent to the duties farmed and 4 per cent customs and he will therefore export his goods from 9 to 14 per cent advantage. If you can form a better scheme, adopt it, but remember at all events we shall expect the dusticks are put upon such a just footing as to secure the Government their duties & enable the merchant to pay our customs.

103. The registers of dusticks have not been transmitted us since the year 1755; why will you continue to disobey our orders? We certainly, by a repetition of such conduct shall be forced to severities that are always against our inclination.

104. You acquaint us that the Mint shall be established upon the plan transmitted to you in our letter of the third of March, but it would have been more satisfactory to us to have been informed, you had actually carried it into execution.

105. In consultation the 24th April 1758, is minuted a charge from the Governor & Council of Bombay against Mr. Robert Baldrick for defrauding us of our duties at Bossorah. You order this to be delivered to Mr. Baldrick & his answer to be demanded. No reply is ever made, nor any further notice taken of it although we in our general letter per Warren 3rd March 1758, have also directed an enquiry and if proved guilty he was ordered home—assign us your reasons for this fragrant [flagrant] omission.

106. The fortifications of Calcutta, we observe, will cost us an immense sum & we fear their construction is much too extensive. However, we cheerfully submit to the expense and hope through your care & assiduity our duties and revenues will enable us to maintain a suitable garrison & aid us to support our other heavy charges.

107. In the course of our observations upon your letters under the fourth head, we have fallen in with your sentiments for erecting a fortification on Birampore Plains, but we must here again remind you that in the Commencement & prosecution of that work the utmost attention must be had to frugality, for we have felt most sensibly the effects of such kind of works not only at your but at our other presidencies & we do assure you nothing but necessity & a certain advantage in view can induce us to give our consent for laying out our money in such a manner.

108. Under the second head we have advised you of the military stores sent & intended to be sent to your presidency, as also of two persons well-skilled in the manufacture of Gunpowder who take passage on the Lord Anson on which ship are likewise sent some models of mills & other works necessary for carrying on that work; for the particulars of all which you are therefore referred to that part of this letter.

Sixthly & Seventhly of Covenant & Military Servants & their accounts

109. You were informed in our letter of the 23rd of Nov: of the name & rank of ten factors & seven writers whom we had chosen & appointed to serve the Company on the Bengal Establishment—several of them are already on their passage & the rest will proceed on the ship now under dispatch.

110. We direct that Richard Barwell, one of the writers on your establishment, instead of the station he at present stands in next below John Woollaston be ranked in your list of covenant servants next below James Barton.

111. Since the date of our said letter Mr. Thomas Rumbold who has behaved well in the Company's Service both in his civil capacity & as a covenant servant at Fort St. George & in the Military there & in Bengal, is also chosen & appointed by us to be a factor in your establishment—his station is to be next under Mr. Thomas French & such his rank is to be constantly preserved by his being at no time hereafter superseded by any one who does now or shall stand below him without our express directions.

112. You must call upon our several servants to write to their friends to give the usual security for them as they advance in station, & as our junior servants come of age they are to execute fresh covenants for the faithful discharge of their duty, several blank ones having been transmitted you for that purpose. When executed and properly attested, they are to be returned to us by the first conveyances. These directions must be constantly observed every year & be regarded as invariable standing orders.

113. The accompanying lists to which you are referred will inform you of the names of the several persons who have our permission this season for proceeding to the East Indies as free merchants in the sea-faring way or otherways.

114. We have thought proper to appoint a Select Committee at Fort Marlbro' for the better securing the Company's Rights, privileges & possessions on the West Coast of Sumatra in the present critical and dangerous situation of Affairs, as well as, for promoting the extension of their commerce to the most beneficial degree & that the same may be conducted with the caution & privacy these important services so necessarily require we have directed our Deputy Governor, Roger Carter Esqr. and Messrs. Richd. Wyatt and Joseph Darwell or any two of them to be the said Committee & we inform you of that the necessary correspondence may be carried on between your presidency & that settlement; our Presidencies of Fort St. George & Bombay have the like information & directions.

115. Mr. William Stewart & Mr. Patrick Edwards being persons well qualified in their profession as surgeons, we shall be glad to have them provided for. We therefore recommend them to succeed as such in the

Company's Service as vacancies happen; if you approve of them after those who have been already recommended by us to succeed (if any such there are) and after those who stand upon your list of surgeons by your appointment at the time the said Mr. Stewart & Edwards shall offer their services to you. The first named is now in India with Col. Clive, the other proceeds to India as surgeon of our ship, Earl Temple.

116. We find it is a practice for some persons to send great men and others a minute account of our affairs and transactions abroad; we will not believe this is done with intentions prejudicial to our interest, but unknowingly to them our affairs may one day suffer greatly by such steps, & from some things which have been lately thrown out—deduced from such advices. It is perhaps very fortunate for the Company that the present ministry are their real & true friends. Although this hint is principally occasioned by some advices which have been sent from Fort St. George and we have accordingly acquainted our servants there. If this practice is repeated by any person or persons whatsoever, we shall highly resent it; yet it is necessary you also should be informed thereof, & be assured that the like conduct in any of our servants or others at Bengal will highly incur our displeasure.

117. There is a Moor named Abdullah, a passenger on board the Sandwich, who was sent over to take care of some wild beasts as a present to the Rt. Hon'ble Mr. Secretary Pitt only one of which called a Shah Great was brought to England & is now kept in the Tower among others of His Majesty's Curiosities of that kind. As Mr. Pitt has very strenuously interested himself in favour of this poor fellow & paid Captain Quick 30 Guineas in full for his passage, diet, liquors & accommodation, you are to make an enquiry upon his arrival whether he has been used well in the voyage or otherwise, & give us an account thereof in your next letters. We have received from Mr. Pitt the sum of fifty-two pounds, ten shillings for the use of the said Abdullah. You are therefore to pay that sum to him accordingly on his arrival in Bengal.

118. In answer to that part of your letter of the 26th of August, 1758 giving your reasons for deviating from the orders sent you in the general letter of the 11th of November, 1757 by the Hardwicke for a rotation of four Governors¹⁰ to preside alternately at our presidency of Bengal, we have only to observe that our subsequent orders by the latter ships of that season are a sufficient proof that we saw the many inconveniences which would certainly attend the carrying the first into execution, and that, therefore altho' you ought at all times to be extremely tender in dispensing with orders, yet in this instance we could have no reason to blame you.

119. When the Government of Calcutta was ordered to 4 persons alternately, the highest posts or rather those of most consequence were assigned to them, and to maintain their rank, which would be unavoidably expensive, we annexed salaries not to those posts but to support their dignity, and

when the presidency was thrown back into its right channel, the usual income and no more should have been allowed; you gentlemen might mistake our intentions, but Mr. Holwell should have acted with more sincerity because he was perfectly acquainted with the Court's sentiments and particularly with the motives for these orders. We agree with you that the collector and land custom-master have the same pretensions to a salary adequate to the sea custom-master's but as we are entire strangers to the real emoluments of these posts, we shall not allow of our appointments per Hardwicke to the officers appropriated the four Presidents until we are enabled to form a judgment of the reasonableness of your request.

120. When you mentioned that the major part of the Council had thought of returning to Europe, their names should have been given us for our guidance, we should then have received them as determinations, but if their duty and obligations had been properly considered, they would have conformed to our standing orders of giving us a year's notice; as we have severely felt this evil, we shall guard against it in future by adding a proper clause to all covenants.

121. If Mr. Brohier's convenience had determined him to remain another season, you should have shown cause why he was admitted again to our service; for a man that relinquished his trust contrary to a standing rule of giving us a twelve months' notice merited no favour or indulgence.

122. We can never come into your scheme of appointing perpetual secretaries and accountants from England; such important branches ought always to be understood by all our servants or they will not be capable of filling high stations. Those two offices should be the schools and nurseries of our youth, from whence by favour or other motives they should not be removed but take a gradual rise to the principal posts and then go off to more advantageous stations. Keeping strictly to this rule established and practised at our settlements for many years, you would never be in want of qualified persons. We will allow from the scarcity of servants you have been under the necessity of making frequent changes, but as you are now largely supplied and will be kept so, we hope you will adhere to what we strongly recommend.

123. As it has not been in our power to examine so minutely into the charge against Mr. Pearkes & his defence as we intend to do on our having more leisure after the dispatch of the chiefs for India this season we do not therefore in the mean time, agree that he do continue in the station you assigned him until you receive our further orders; but when you were examining into his conduct why were not the characters he strikes at vindicated? Could you conceive that we should pass over those remarkable passages in Mr. Pearkes' letter: "That he had contracted for large quantities of Broad cloth, perpets, etc., provided the gentlemen would have sent them up, and would have sold yearly 600 to 800 bales of cloth, 400 to 500 bales of perpets—but this benefit your present servants—how justly your Honours will be judges of—have appropriated to their own benefit & advantage as on a perusal

of your dustick Registers you will see". Do you imagine we are not alarmed at such assertions especially as they are unnoticed & the dustick registers kept from us? A charge that viewed in a national light concerns the most essential branch of our Commerce; and we therefore call upon you all to clear up these matters circumstantially & without disguise as you value our favour. And here it may be necessary to enlarge upon the subject of our woollen trade and lay down some rules for your future Government. As the extension of our woollen manufacture has ever been our principal aim—quantity not profit is the object of our attention, & if lowering the gains will increase the consumption, you may pursue such measure until it falls within 15 or 10 per cent, upon invoice. From Mr. Pearkes' insinuations it should seem that foreign woollens were purchased by our servants for the Patna Market; we will not believe you capable of injuring your employer in so cruel a manner; but to prevent any person under our protection doing us this mischief in future, we positively direct that Customs of 20 per cent be levied on all broad cloths, long ells or other species of woollens that are not the manufacture of Great Britain, and which shall be imported, by whomsoever, to any place within your jurisdiction. If such articles are clandestinely landed, upon proof they have not paid this duty of 20 per cent, the goods are to be seized and forfeited—the one half to the informer, the other moiety pay [*sic*] into our treasury—the person or persons, if Europeans, be whom they will must be sent to England, if Indian, banished for ever from our settlement. Observe that all freight goods of this kind are included in the duty of 20 per cent & make these our directions public that no man may plead ignorance.

124. We are glad to find so favourable a mention made of Mr. McGwire who may depend upon encouragement suitable to his merit.

125. Let all our servants at the subordinates be acquainted that their application and industry in the provision of so large an investment are very pleasing to us.

126. The department of Buxie is always filled by a gentleman of Council—if we thought it necessary to have a check upon that office, & none should be without: how came you to imagine that Mr. Brohier was to be exempted from such control? But although we have no reason to doubt this person's integrity still we must acquaint you that our orders were not complied with; & the surveyor's powers as described in our plan per Warren, shall not be waded [*sic*] on any pretence whatsoever. We mention it in this place because our service requiring Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted at Bombay, we propose to fix him upon that establishment. He is, therefore, to remove thither the first opportunity that offers after receipt of this letter; you are to fill this post with a worthy and capable person.

127. We highly resent the weak & presumptuous conduct of Mr. Hollwell for joining in consultation with the Commander & Officers of the Warren to break through our orders; in his interested situation, prudence surely

should have dictated a different behaviour. It was out of his province to meddle with such a subject; but if compelled by entreaty to assist in those Councils, he as a faithful servant, should have renounced his then selfish prospects & advised obedience to the orders of his employers. We are not willing to remember past transactions, but we caution him to be more guarded in future, for perhaps by his influence the distresses of Madras were increased & an unhappy commander ruined.

128. You have been informed in our letter of the 6th of Feb: last that we sent in the Royal Duke about 50 recruits for our own forces in Bengal & at the same time you were acquainted we had given permission to the Governor of St. Helena to take out as many of them as could be prevailed on to stay at that Island. Those who do not stay there will proceed on to you according to our first intentions and will be the only recruits you will receive this season, & indeed had not His Majesty been graciously pleased to order a large Military reinforcement to proceed to India this season, yours as well as the presidencies of Fort St. George & Bombay, would have been unavoidably supplied by the Company in a very short degree, for so long as the demand for the national service subsists, it has been & will be almost impossible notwithstanding our utmost efforts to raise a number of recruits nearly adequate to what our service requires.

129. In raising our recruits for India we follow the Government's practice as nearly as we have power and we allow largely for head money in order to obtain good men. This has hitherto been our pay-master's province with whom we do not contract but settle annually the bounty we will give, taking care it is always considerably more than what the Government allow. We are often necessitated to take undersized soldiers, but if they are not always strong able men, we have been deceived. Your complaints upon this head are very commendable as it essentially concerns the safety of our settlements and we shall certainly take it into serious consideration.

130. Our military have little cause to complain of their masters. We have for some time made it a rule to send out no new officers, although great applications have been and are frequently made. Those you allude to were either postponed or in our judgement aggrieved, and that our servants abroad might not be dissatisfied, we would not return them to the presidencies they quitted. We esteemed them all brave and capable officers, and if you can make good your assertion we shall dismiss the unworthy, but neither your animadversions or the remonstrances of such new men (for we have noticed their names) upon this slight or rather no foundation, are at all becoming.

131. We cannot justify the conduct of those officers who resigned our service, because Capt. Gowin, their superior, was kept upon the Bengal establishment and we have accordingly resented this behaviour upon their application to be readmitted, and indeed as we respect Colonel Clive we have withstood very strong solicitation in their favour. For all the presidencies, with respect to the Company are but one body, and whenever our service requires a

removal of officers from one settlement to another rank must be preserved conformable to the dates of commissions; yet we must tell you that nothing but necessity could justify the disgusting so many officers, but as the Bombay detachment was almost mouldered away consisting of few more men than forty—and your troubles in all appearance at end—where was the equity or good policy of detaining Capt. Gowin, an old commander, but a man that had seen little service to be placed over the heads of brave and experienced officers, some of whom to your own knowledge had acquitted themselves gallantly, & consequently merited favour, your conduct therefore, in this instance, is very displeasing for it appears to us, that to gratify the Gentlemen of Bombay, you have made the whole corps of officers dissatisfied with our service. However, in our letters of last year, this evil was rectified, as we ordered the Bombay Commanders to their own establishment; but if this is not yet done we positively direct that Capt. Gowin be returned by the very first opportunity to the Presidency of Bombay; nor will we in future suffer any officers occasionally detached to the assistance of your Presidency to be fixed at Calcutta without our express permission.

132. We have several petitions before us from the officers that resigned our service praying to be restored and the applications of their friends have given us infinite trouble; however, from the respect we bear to Col. Clive our determinations will be postponed until his arrival. Capt. Peter Carstairs is the only exception; this gentleman allowed to be a brave and gallant officer avowing that he was requested by Colonel Clive to keep his Commission, and Mr. Watts delivering us a letter affirming that he was deputed by the Colonel to entreat, he would continue in the service. We judge a person thus distinguished should be immediately restored. He therefore embarks upon these ships, and we direct that he do succeed to the command of the first Company which shall become vacant after his arrival in Bengal; and until such vacancy shall happen, he is to receive Captain's pay to commence upon his arrival and be employed in such manner as you shall think proper. Upon his succeeding to a Company, as aforesaid, he is to take rank according to the date of the Captain's Commission formerly granted by you.

133. Mr. Mallagan's rude and bad behaviour to Colonel Draper justly forfeited him our service and your refusing him a commission has our approbation.

134. Agreeable to your request for having some persons sent you skilled in the making of Gunpowder, two men have been engaged for that purpose who take their passage on the Lord Anson, as we have particularly advised you under the second head of this letter.

135. His Majesty has been graciously pleased, in consequence of our application, to grant commissions for the promotion of Lieutenant-Colonel Stringer Lawrence and Lieut. Col. Robert Clive to the rank of Colonels in the East Indies only—as also to grant a commission for our Fort S. George—Major John

Caillaud to be a Lieut. Col. in the East Indies only. Colonel Clive's commission was sent by the Lord Mansfield and an authenticated War Office copy thereof by the Falmouth. At the same time, His Majesty was pleased to promote the officers of the Battalion at Fort S. George, viz. Lieut. Col. Draper to be a Colonel and the Majors Brereton and Monson to be Lieutenant Colonels. It has been signified to us from the War Office that the several gentlemen so promoted rank in the following order which it is necessary you should be informed of in case any of them shall happen at any time to be in service at Bengal, Viz. Lieutenant Colonel Stringer Lawrence, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Clive, Lieutenant Colonel William Draper, Colonels in the East Indies only. Major Cholmondeley Brereton, Major George Monson, John Caillaud Esqre., Lieut. Colonels in the East Indies only.

136. The great number of forces granted by His Majesty including those of this year will enable us to give you a garrison of 2000 Europeans during the War, but upon Mr. Clive's sensible & judicious plan the forces of our presidencies, at least of Madras & Bengal, will be in common aiding each other as the different situation of affairs may demand, under such a well concerted union your garrison may at times be more numerous or often no more than prudence may deem necessary for your protection against the natives, as happened when you determined upon that noble step of sending Colonel Forde to Mazulipatam. However, thus circumstanced & cemented, you will be a security to each other, and in all human probability out of the reach of danger. The force that went abroad last year & are now destined for India, will demonstrate that your employers labour incessantly to strengthen & protect their settlements. The glorious successes at home having enabled the Government to grant us large succours & we must gratefully confess the Ministry's care of this Company & surely the many unkind remonstrances in almost every letter would have spared if you had reflected properly upon our cruel and dangerous situation: our mercantile concerns always giving place to men and stores when we could possibly obtain them; ever distressed for tonnage, as we carry abroad for the Government seldom less than 1,000 tons annually exclusive of their men and baggage; the heavy demorage incurred by ships detained by accident or otherwise in India, the immense expenses at Madras with very scanty returns; your own charges very great; those of Bombay beyond all bounds; our settlements on Sumatra at the same time requiring large sums to put them in some state of security against enemies & dangerous neighbours. If these considerations had been duly weighed, your injurious insinuations of being neglected, must have been turned into praise, that your employers could do so much under such untoward circumstances. We ourselves look back with wonder at the difficulties we have surmounted & which with our contracted capital must have been impossible if the proprietors generously & without a murmur had not *generously* consented to reduce their dividend 25 per cent; but with all our economy & care unless our servants studiously attend to lessen their charges & increase our advantages, the burthen will be too great for us to bear much longer.

137. We agree with you that there must always be a respectable force kept up in Bengal to secure our noble & we hope improving acquisitions & to guard against the machinations of our treacherous neighbours who have already begun to show themselves, & we are determined that the fixed garrison at Calcutta shall not be less than 1,500 Europeans (the Blacks at your own discretion) & with such a force we apprehend you will always influence & govern the affairs of Bengal.

138. Before your letters reached us we have finished our contracts for silver for this season & therefore had we been inclined, it was not in our power to have furnished you with any quantity, but you amaze us in saying that your treasure will be exhausted in the year 1760 with supplies to Fort St. George & your subordinates, completing the Citadel & the necessary expenses of the settlement; this is really at present past our power to comprehend & should it prove a truth, your great & dazzling acquisitions will be the ruin of this Company for it's a striking fact, that although we have benefited upwards of a million sterling by the late treaty, yet not a single shilling of this immense sum has gone in aid to our returns & by your representation the whole will be buried in your citadel & the charges of Calcutta, for the goods for sale you have received with the bills drawn upon us from that period as far exceeding the returns you have made us as to leave a larger surplus than the supplies to Madras we imagine can amount to as will appear by the auditor's statement, transmitted in this packet; but by another account framed from your books & quick stock¹¹ we have the pleasure to be convinced that you have been grossly misled by those who pretended to state the situation of our finances easy in the year 1760; they merit severe reprehension from you and ourselves for their inattention & remissness in so essential a matter. This account is a number in the packet for your observation, & here it may be necessary to apprize you our China trade of late greatly extended, will call for such a considerable amount in bullion that we may not even the next season have it in our power but with difficulty to send you any silver. However the arrival of your early ship will determine us as we shall then know how far you have supplied Madras, because unless the settlement has been largely supplied we are satisfied you ought to want no assistance, but should you ever be under difficulties, apply in time to our Presidency of Bombay who generally have considerable surplus treasure. It is indeed our standing orders, they make you or Madras (whichever may want) such annual remittances, & it was formerly their merit, but by their last account of quick stock dated March 1759 we observe, they had upwards of two millions and a half of rupees without any visible call for 400,000 rupees.

139. As from what is before observed there may be a probability of your wanting money for your investments, the various expenses of your settlements & making the necessary remittances for the like purposes to the Presidency of Fort St. George, in order therefore to encourage the paying as much money into your cash as you shall carefully calculate you will stand in

need of; we therefore order notwithstanding the directions in our General letter of the 23rd of March 1759, or any former orders.

140. That from the receipt of this letter the exchange be raised from 2s-3d to 2s-4d a C. Rupee for all the money you shall want for the purposes beforementioned & shall draw bills upon us for.

141. That to accommodate such persons who shall want to make remittances to England for supplying the necessities of their friends & relations, & such like necessary occasions, we allow you to draw upon us to the amount of £20,000 at the said rate of 2s-4d per rupee payable at 90 days sight.

142. That for all monies paid in over and above the said £ 20,000 to whatever they amount Bills be drawn upon us at the beforementioned rate of 2s-4d per current rupee to be made payable 12 months after sight but to carry interest at the rate of 4 per cent per annum upon the expiration of the first 90 days after such bills are presented to us for acceptance.

143. That care be taken in drawing the said bills to distinguish therein exactly the terms for all such as shall be granted for the £ 20,000 at 90 days sight and for whatever exceed the said sum of £ 20,000 at twelve months after sight as beforementioned.

144. As the allowing you to draw upon us for the said £ 20,000 payable at 3 months sight is intended for the benefit of the settlement in general we shall therefore expect you will make use of this liberty in an equitable manner accordingly, and we must add that if any partiality is shown on the occasion we shall certainly resent it.

145. The said several directions with respect to Bills of Exchange upon us are to continue in force until you receive our orders to the contrary.

146. We are further to inform you that we give similar directions to our Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay at the first of which the Pagoda is to be raised in exchange from 7s-8d to eight shillings and at Bombay the rupee is to be raised from 2s-5d to 2s-6d.

147. We have considered of the claim made by Mr. George Williamson for the payment of a bond or interest note in his name for the principal sum of 18,700 C. rupees or thereabouts which was lost on the capture of Fort William & as the proofs transmitted in support of such claim seem to be satisfactory & you assured us, you are convinced the said Bond had been discharged before that unfortunate period, we do allow you to pay the principal & what interest shall appear due thereon to the said Mr. George Williamson, but previous thereto we direct that you make a careful enquiry whether that sum or any part thereof has not been paid off since the capture of Fort William & you are to act accordingly.

148. We have likewise considered of the claim made by Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted for payment of the following 'interest notes' lost in the confusion

at the capture of Fort William, as mentioned in his said claim, viz., in his own name:

One note dated 3rd Sept. 1754 for	C. Rupees d. [sic] 1830- 6-
One do. 3rd April 1753 } endorsed 2 yrs interest paid. }	C. Rupees s. d. 2182———2-3
One do. 9th August 1753 } endorsed 2 years interest paid }	C. Rupees s. d. 7128———9-6
One note dated 5th Feb. 1754 in the name of Jonathan Ranson endorsed over to Barth. Plaisted & further endorsed 1 year interest paid-Principal	1141-1-9 C. Rupees 1012-s.11-d.3

149. And as the loss of the said bonds is attested by Mr. William Fullerton & you give it as your opinion that they were not discharged or endorsed over to others at the capture, we therefore allow you also to pay the principal & what interest shall appear due thereon to Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted, first making the like previous enquiries as directed in the foregoing paragraph with respect to Mr. Williamson, and upon proper affidavits being made that no part of such principal or interest has been paid.

150. You having also given your opinion that the 3 bonds mentioned in the application of the Church-wardens amounting to 20,018 C. rupees (for charity stock) lost at the said capture of Fort William were not discharged or endorsed over to others at the capture. We do likewise agree to the payment of the three said bonds with what interest shall appear due thereon, first making the previous enquiries and entry proof mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs.

151. We have also considered the letter & affidavit of Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft concerning the loss of two Bonds, one in the name of James Irwin, infant, dated on or about July 1755, for crs. 5084-7-9 & the other dated in the year 1753 or 1754 for the sum of crs. 1188-1-6 in the name of Mr. Robert Mapletoft, & as you assure us, you believe, that these bonds really existed at the time of the capture & that they were lost in the plunder of Fort William, we do also admit of their being paid off with the interest due thereon on making the like previous enquiry & on the like proof directed in the foregoing paragraph.

152. With respect to the application of the Accountant General of the Mayor's Court for the payment of the following bonds deposited in our treasury at Fort William by Mrs. Sophia Aratcon before the capture, viz.,

One bond dated 13 May 1753	Principal
(in the name of Amend Cawn for)	C. rupees 1782-2-3
One do. 11 June 1753	1308-0-0
One do. 15 June 1753 in the name of Jonkyram	1771-2-9

C. Rs. 5861-5-0 [sic]

153. In the first place you have not given us your opinion whether those bonds really existed or whether they were lost as is alleged. In the next place the Company by their Charter of the 26 year of his present Majesty are certainly indemnified for any claims for deposits in case of the loss of the settlement or by fire, & lastly we totally disagree with your opinion that abstractedly from other considerations supposing the Company have received ample restitution for all their losses, demands of this nature ought to be made good by them. We will not therefore admit of this claim of the Mayor's Court being paid, considered under the circumstance of a deposit ; but in another light we think Mrs. Aratoon in equity ought to be paid if it is fully proved that the said bonds really existed, because in such case, the money had been lent to the Company & made use of by them long before the capture of Fort William. We do therefore in this view & on this consideration only agree to the payment of the principal & interest of the said bonds when you have full evidence produced of the reality of their existence at the time alleged & of the loss of them at the capture of Fort William; & with respect to the interest particular care must be taken to pay no more than shall be in fact due.

154. But previous to the payment of any of the before mentioned claims you are to make a particular enquiry, whether any allowances have been made for them out of the monies given by the Nabob for making good private losses & if any such are found to be paid thereon such sums are not to be allowed again.

155. On payment of all the claims before mentioned on account of Bonds alleged to be lost, you must take sufficient and proper security to indemnify the Company from all demands which may be made upon them in case any of them shall be found again, & for the delivering up of such bonds to be cancelled.

156. With respect to Mr. Hollwell's case, we must presume the Commissioners for examining the estimate of losses sustained by the Europeans by the capture of Fort William, had good reasons for rejecting his demand on account of a French bond¹² he alleges to have been possessed of and which was plundered with the rest of his effects at the said capture & therefore we do not choose to interfere therein especially as we cannot take upon us at present to say in what manner the surplus remaining of the sum granted by the Nabob after all the demands for losses sustained are discharged is to be disposed of.

157. And this gives us the occasion to direct that the surpluses remaining on the sums granted by the Nabob for indemnifying Europeans, Natives & all other sufferers after the several demands thereon are made good be received into and retained in our Treasury for our future directions, & that you keep an exact account thereof & transmit the same to England for our information.

158. In answer to the 215th paragraph of your general letter of the 31st Dec. 1758, we say if you really thought it a just measure to allow of 15 per cent for interest on the claims of the European sufferers it is but reasonable that the like allowance should be made on the Armenian claims.

159. In the packet by the Prince George we received a letter addressed to you by Mr. John Zephaniah Holwell dated the 5th March 1759, demanding payment of the sum of Crs. 39,076-1-6 with the interest due thereon as attorney to the heir of Thomas Purnell, deceased for 4 bonds or interest notes in the name of that gentleman. In the same letter he also demands payment as trustee of Robert Massey deceased of 10,000 crupeas[sic]. with interest thereon for a bond or interest note in his Mr. Holwell's name all which he sets forth to have been lost at the capture of Fort William, but as you have not in your general letter taken any notice of the said claims and as your Consultation reach but to the 3rd of March & nothing appears in support thereof more than what is alleged therein by Mr. Holwell, we must therefore wait for your examination into & opinion on these cases before we can give any directions thereon.

160. By a comparative view of your charges general by the books ending April 1755 with those ending April 1758, in the imperfect manner they have been sent to us there appears an increase of rupees 9,12,443-9-5 of which rupees 5,24,644-13-3 arises upon charges military, the particulars whereof cannot be examined for want of the military paymaster's accts. being sent home as directed in March 1758, whereas the muster rolls only are as yet transmitted. As this is a very large transaction it is highly necessary we should have all the books & accounts relative thereto properly stated for our information & therefore we hope you will not fail to send them by the first opportunity.

161. An increase of rupees 45,752-6-6 likewise arises upon the charge diet and allowances occasioned by the covenant Servants having greater allowances made them than in the year 1755. We observe that the article of House-rent in your charges general exceeds the allowances granted in our letter 3rd March 1758, & therefore direct that order to be punctually complied with, & that all surpluses be repaid into our Treasury by the respective persons who have received them.

162. In your books ending April 1758, a head is opened for charges works as well as that styled charges fortification, when they appear relative to the same purpose ; & especially as charges fortification includes advances to the committee of works & other persons which advances instead of being placed under this general head, ought to have been placed to a separate account of the Committee, that the disposal thereof might appear which cannot be discovered as the books are now stated. This must be rectified in future.

163. Notwithstanding the usual heads of charges are brought upon your books from whence these observations are collected, yet entire dependence cannot be had upon those charges, because the particular accounts thereof

are not closed, which might have been done separately, though the Books had not been balanced.

164. The accounts of the subordinate factories" not being inserted in the books is another material omission as thereby the statement of the Nabob's account which you transmitted, as mentioned in the 80th paragraph of your general letter 31st Dec. 1758, is almost unintelligible, by reason of there not appearing on the books sufficient heads of accounts to confirm that statement.

165. This imperfect state of your general books & your neglecting to send us the Books of the subordinate Factories has at this time, been a more than common disappointment to us, for by this means the enquiry we were desirous of making into the several sums received & paid to the close of the books in April 1758, on account of the Treaty with Jaffier Ally Cawn have been attended with a total uncertainty. However, from our auditor's examination therein the following observations have resulted which it is necessary you should attentively consider.

166. We find by your consultations of the 18th July 1758 that three heads of account are ordered to be brought on your books, viz. Capture of Calcutta, Contract with the Army & Navy & European Inhabitants which order we suppose related to the books now sent as those heads of account are brought thereon.

167. And as we might reasonably expect to find the Nabob's statement explained by the heads you had made, choice of so far as they related, recourse was had thereto, but instead of obtaining the necessary satisfaction, this matter remains very doubtful and obscure, more especially as you have brought under the same head receipts from the Nabob Suraja Doula, as well as those from the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn, which transactions ought to have been kept distinct from each other.

168. If the transactions with the different Nabobs had been brought on your books in a regular manner, you would then have had three accounts:— one for the capture of Calcutta, another for the Nabob Suraja Doula, and the third for the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn. In this manner the capture of Calcutta would have stood debited, with the several articles now charged to it amounting to rupees 2,25,844-12-9 except the article of Rs. 10,215-13 in April 1758, (for an error in the former month's treasury account) which appears relative to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn, & the credit of Rs. 3,789-3-6 would have properly appeared under the head of Capture of Calcutta, as it now stands.

169. With respect to the Nabob Suraja Doula, whatever restitution was made by him is impossible to be discovered by your books because in June 1757, you credit Cossimbuzar factory Rs. 5,586,35-7-6 for money received from thence (wh. money came from this Nabob) & in July 1757, you credit

Capture of Calcutta, Rs. 1,43,803 for goods received from him, but whether these credits arose from restitution to be made by Suraja Doulet or were only returns of what had been taken away cannot be discovered for want of having stated a separate account of the losses by him. The credits of Rs. 72,486-5-6 and Rs. 13,508-10-9 given the head of Capture of Calcutta in April 1758, seem likewise to belong to Suraja Doulet's account.

170. The other credits given the head of Capture of Calcutta should have been brought to the credit of the present Nabob, as they appear to relate to the Company's proportion of the restitution to be made under his treaty, but are left very imperfect in many material instances, particularly in the three first receipts from Muxadavad in August, Sept. and October 1757, no mention being made from what sums remitted by the Nabob those proportions are taken.

171. But as your statement acknowledges the receipt of three sums on which they seem to be drawn the whole of the Nabob's payments should either have been brought on your books, or at least mentioned in them, and the distribution thereof properly explained. But though this has been omitted we hope that you have taken care to have receipts and discharges in the fullest manner for every sum paid or delivered out of the treasury, to the Agents or Commissioners of all the parties concerned in the restitution, as also for the Nabob's donation to the Army and Navy—that the Company may stand secure from any future claim therein.

172. In the statement there is a sum of S. Rs. 1,54,978-11 said to be for various kinds of rupees dispatched by Mr. Manningham though by your general books Nov. 1757 the same appear to consist of Sunt. Rupees 150,000 & 4978-12-. Cloth given to the Nabob's officers, & which by your consultations Oct. 1757 is mentioned as a reduction of the original invoice of cloth sent by the Nabob, but whatever reasons there might be for replacing this cloth to the Nabob's credit none appear why the whole amount should be deducted from the Company's proportion of the S. Rupees 1,54,970-12 as is done in your general books above mentioned where the Army & Navy and European sufferers are credited for the full proportions thereof. This therefore requires explanation, for if the cloth was a present expedient to be made to the Nabob's officers, the several funds ought to have their respective deductions.

173. From the Company's proportion of the above S. Rupees 1,54,978-12 with Batta thereon, your general books have another deduction Crs. 22,800 said to be accounted for by Mr. Manningham, but for want of the subordinate's accounts this article remains wholly unintelligible.

174. The loss arising on jewels, as mentioned in the 75th paragraph of your general letter of the 31st Dec. 1758, cannot be understood here, as no account of sales, except one to the amount of rupees 1,444 are entered in your consultations (though you advise they were) and as no inference can be drawn between the amount of sales by your books & treasury accounts to Feb. 1759 acknowledged in current rupees & the value by the Muxadavad

Invoice being siccas. For if batta be added thereto at 11 per cent as in the cloth stated in August 1758, the loss would amount to Rs. 1,35,071-12-9 instead the 98,649-6 mentioned in your letter. If this should prove to be the case we trust you have properly debited the several funds for their proportions of the difference.

175. The omission of your subordinates' accounts in your general books has occasioned another difficulty with respect to the balance of the Nabob's first moiety (S. Rs. 3,55,366-10-10) acknowledged by the statement to be received in Jan. 1758, prior to the close of your books, yet no such sum appears therein.

176. We are also at a loss to account for the commission of 5 per cent to Roydullab, which is deducted from the Company's proportion of the three first sums received from the Nabob and likewise for commission of about 4 per cent on the two first payments of the second moiety, as no stipulation is made in the treaty for any such commission and as you have given us no information of the propriety thereof, but if the same became expedient to be allowed on the part of the Company, it must be equally so with respect to all the parties concerned. You will, therefore, explain to us the reason of this Commission & inform us whether the same was a charge upon the other funds.

177. As we observe that various disputes have arisen with respect to the claims of the natives and Armenians as your books & treasury accounts make no mention of their proportions until July 1758 wh. was near a year after the for [?.] greatest part of the Nabob's first moiety was received, we cannot comprehend in whose hands so large a sum of money lay during that time or even to the departure of your advices in Feb: 1759 when a sum of C Rs. 6,000 only appears to be advanced the Armenians, though we do not find that their claims were at this time adjusted. We cannot but think it a very great neglect that in a matter of such a nature you should have omitted to inform us where the proportions of the natives & Armenians were lodged.

178. The statement mentions in July 1758 a receipt of S. Rupees 150,000 for the Nabob's balance of the Patna expedition; but as no account has been transmitted to us whereby the whole expenses of the expedition might appear, as also the sums paid by the Nabob in discharge of the same you will not fail to give us the fullest satisfaction therein.

179. As the treaty with the Nabob is a matter of so great importance & affected not only the Company but the various persons under their protection, we have reason to complain of your not having sent us a distinct account of the receipts & distribution of all the sums paid in consequence of the Treaty & also on the Nabob's donation to the Army & Navy even to the time of your last dispatches; the more especially as you must be sensible that in a case of such concern we could not but be very solicitous of having the most early as well as the most particular information.

180. As you will doubtless be enabled by the time you receive this packet to make a clear statement of the Nabob's restitution, we expect you will take this matter into consideration & transmit us an account thereof in so full a manner that we may easily discover how far the Treaty has been completed with respect to all the Parties concerned as well as the Company, at the same time taking care to rectify all omissions here observed & to charge the respective funds with all the expenses of collecting the money & whatever losses may have accrued.

181. We have further to add in relation to your general books that whenever any bills are remitted to or received from one Presidency to another, the specie of the Country is to be mentioned therein, as otherwise it is difficult to ascertain their connection. Of this difficulty two instances arise in the bills you granted on Fort St. Geroge in 1757 to Messrs. Powney and Baillie.

182. Your transactions with other Presidencies should likewise mention the date of each invoice & their separate amount in the specie of the country from whence they are consigned. And as we have already given directions to our other presidencies to transmit accounts current from time to time to the Presidencies with whom they are concerned in order that the separate books may be compared with each other, we direct that you practice the same in future & at the close of each set of Books explain the differences of your balances from theirs. The same is likewise to be done for your subordinates whenever such differences happen, but which will be very rare as you will have it in your power to correct their books before your own are closed.

Eighthly, Concerning the Charter

183. By the ships of the two last seasons we have sent you copies of a great number of books & papers to supply the place of those which were lost on the Capture of Fort William amongst which were copies of the registers of the Mayor's Court from the year 1750 & of the wills proved therein for the same years; we now also send you by the ships Lord Anson and Prince Edward copies of the like books for two years preceding, viz. for 1749 and 1750.

Ninthly of His Majesty's Squadron & Landforces

184. In our letter of the 15th Feb: we informed you that His Majesty had been most graciously pleased to order the following ships to proceed to the East Indies to reinforce the Squadron under the command of Admiral Pocock, viz.

	Guns	
The Norfolk of	74	Capt. Parker
Panther	64	.. Affleck
America	64	.. Haldane
Medway	60	.. Tinker
Liverpool	28	.. Knight
& South Sea Castle } Storeship		.. Newsome.

185. The two first named left England on the 6th. of January & the others on the 7th. ult:— together with Company's ships Caernarvon, Princess Augusta, Warwick, Norfolk, Duke of Richmond, Lord Mansfield and Falmouth under their convoy.

186. You were informed in our beforementioned letter of the 15th, Feb: that 2,000 men of His Majesty's Land Forces proceed to the East Indies this season for the assistance of the Company to be embarked at 3 different periods. The first on the ships bound to Fort St. George, the second on the ships now under dispatch for Bengal, & the last embarkation on the Bombay ships.

187. The number of the first embarkation consists of about 640 men one half whereof are intended to complete the Battallion upon the coast of Choromandel & the other half of that in Bengal commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Coote. This last half you were acquainted might be detained at Fort St. George if the service at that Presidency required; otherways they were to be forwarded to Bengal. You were also acquainted that upon the arrival of the said reinforcement it is to be in all respects upon the same footing as to additional pay and allowances with the officers & soldiers now under the command of Lieut. Col. Coote agreeable to the directions given last season relating to that Battallion observing however that as there are no field-officers in the said reinforcement, no additional expense is to be incurred on that account.

188. The President & Council of Fort St. George have advised us by the Warren that part of Colonel Coote's battallion was arrived there & they were in expectation of a further part, that as the situation of affairs in Bengal did not immediately require an additional force, whereas such force would be greatly advantageous on the Coast of Choromandel, they had come to a resolution to detain all the reinforcements which should arrive until they receive an answer from you to what they had writ on that subject, with your opinion upon the measures most proper to be taken for the general good. This will make no alteration with respect to the allowances to Col. Coote's battallion & the beforementioned recruits for it, the President & Council of Fort St. George being apprized thereof, consequently if it is employed at Fort St. George they will be made good there on its arrival in Bengal then the directions you have already had are to take place.

189. It is necessary here to repeat what we said in our letter of the 15th Feb. that although the King's troops are or shall be at different settlements yet it is his Majesty's intention they should be employed wherever their service may be wanted. The necessary steps must therefore be taken and measures concerted & pursued for carrying the same into execution in the most effectual manner, more particularly by the Select Committees at yours & our other Presidencies.

190. The beforementioned 640 men which went out in the ships bound to Fort St. George together with about the same number now proceeding in

the ships under dispatch for Bengal as hereafter mentioned, are all that we could possibly contrive to send to your side of India, the remainder of the 2,000 men amounting to about 720 (of whom about 1035 are Highlanders) as hereafter mentioned, the others will be part of a corps which at present we are not informed of must therefore necessarily be sent on the Bombay ships although at present there does not appear to us any real occasion for them on that coast. We shall therefore direct our own President & Council of Bombay to forward all or as many of them as can be spared from thence either to the Choromandel Coast or to Bengal at either of which they may be the most useful by the first conveyances. But as this will in great measure depend upon yours & the Fort St. George representation of circumstances, we shall depend therefore upon you & our Presidency of Fort St. George for sending such informations & making such requisitions as well to & of His Majesty's officers at the Presidency of Bombay as may be necessary for having all or the greatest part of the said Bombay Corps brought accordingly to the place or places where they are most wanted.

191. The detachment of his Majesty's troops now proceeding to Bengal embarks on the ships Prince Edward, Latham, Lord Anson, Sandwich & Admiral Watson, & consists of about 575 men, officers included—being 5 companies of a new raised battallion of Scotts Highlanders commanded by Lieut. Col. Stuart Long Morris & the Majors George Scott and Hector Monro. As it was impossible to find a passage for the whole battallion to proceed directly to Bengal the remaining 4 Companies will go on the Bombay ships making with the Officers about 460 men, Major George Scott takes his passage in the Prince Edward, & in the absence of the Lieut. Col. will have the command of the first named five Companies, the other 4 Companies as before observed, being [*sic*] to proceed to Bombay, Lieut. Col. Morris and Major Monro go with them on the ships bound to that Presidency.

192. We shall desire when the troops are ready to be shipped two gentlemen of our Coast to proceed to Portsmouth & superintend the embarkation of the said detachment who will give you an account of the number of men on each ship, & whatever else they may think necessary on the occasion.

193. You will observe by the several commanders instructions of the ships on which the said corps takes its passage, that we have in the strongest manner enjoined them to behave well to the officers and private men, & as we are determined highly to resent any ill-usage they may meet with you must make a strict enquiry in this respect into the conduct and behaviour of each of them on their arrival & give us an exact & faithful account thereof by the first conveyances. The surgeons of the said ships having directions to attend upon & take all proper care of the said officers & private men during their passage. If you find they have done their duty you are to pay ~~them~~ the same head money as is usually allowed for our own recruits.

194. Agreeable to what we did on Colonel Draper's & Lieut. Col. Coote's battallion proceeding to India, we now pay here the commanders of our said several ships on which this detachment takes passage for dieting at their respective tables the sum of fifty pounds for Major Scott & for all the other Commission Officers thirty pounds each. We also pay here to the owners of all the said ships (except the Admiral Watson which is our own) ten pounds a head for the diet & accommodation for all the officers & private men and have also laid in some brandy on every ship to be duly distributed among them in proper quantities from time to time as may best tend to their relief and refreshment. As to the Admiral Watson provisions & necessaries are laid in on the Company's Account & the Commander is satisfied for the officers' dieting at his table.

195. We shall in like manner pay here the same sums for the officers, non-commissioned officers & private men of that part of the battallion proceeding to Bombay & £50 each for Colonel Morris and Major Monro.

196. As the Commanding Officers of this Corps will be at some extraordinary charges for house-rent & the expense of their tables when in India, we have to put them on the same footing with the Commanding Officers of the King's troops already in India. We have agreed to allow to Lieut. Col. Morris £400 a year, to Major Scott £200 a year and to Major Monro £200 a year to defray the expense of house-rent & entertaining their Officers at such times as they shall think fit, which said allowances are to commence upon the arrival of those gentlemen respectively in Bengal or wherever else they shall enter into service & be continued during their being in His Majesty's service in India & are to be in consideration of all expenses whatsoever excepting Batta & in the field.

197. It being our intention that this battallion shall be in all respects upon the same footing as to additional pay & allowances with that on the Choromandel Coast, the battallion commanded by Lieut. Col. Coote, you are therefore referred to the directions we gave you when the last named Battallion went out which are fully sufficient for your guidance & are accordingly to be observed & followed with respect to this Battallion.

198. As it is intended by his Majesty that this battallion (as well as his Majesty's other forces) should serve the Company in the most effectual manner, we are assured that the commanding officers will have instructions & directions accordingly & we make no doubt they will avoid all alterations & embrace every opportunity of pursuing their instructions with cheerfulness and alacrity for the good of the service in general. And on your part we expect & direct that you take the utmost care to cultivate & preserve a good harmony & agreement between his Majesty's Troops & the Company's; you are to carry it with great civility to the commanding officers & treat all the officers in a gentlemanlike & friendly manner, & in general your behaviour is to be such as will best contribute to engage them readily & willingly to cooperate with you in every measure for the common benefit of the Service.

Supplement

199. We being informed that the allowance of Six Rupees per day to our Master Attendant, when on service in dispatch of our Europe ships, is insufficient & does not reimburse him his expense, we direct that you increase the same when upon this service to such an extent as you judge equitable.

200. The Mugga Silk marked MRS will not do at any price, & even if it would answer in quality it cannot be imported, for it is seizable by law as thrown silk, nor will the Putny Novr. Bund marked PNB in the condition it now is answer, but if it could be wound on a larger reel & the respective sizes separated in different bales as is done in the Bengal Silk, it may.

201. Upon taking into consideration the recommendation of Mr. McGuire in your letter of the 5th March, 1759, as well as his former good services, as also that Capt. Fenwick has been a very old servant of the Company's, we do direct notwithstanding, what was said in our letter of the 23rd Nov. last, that those gentlemen do not refund the sums you paid them for their allowances during their absence from Bengal, but if they have made such refunds before your receipt of this letter in such case the same are to be repaid to them.

202. Considering also the good services and sufferings of Mr. Wm Ellis. we do direct that he likewise be paid the amount of his salary & allowances from the time of his departure from Bengal to his return thither again.

203. The beforegoing indulgences are by no means to be drawn into a precedent & we do here repeat & enforce what we said in our said letter of the 23rd of Nov. That unless very good reasons are, assigned, we will in future allow, neither rank or standing to our Civil or Military Servants who leave their stations with a view of returning again, altho' they have your permission for so doing. And we further direct that when any of our Civil or Military Officers apply for leave to return to England you inform them of our said resolution.

204. Having received a good character of Mr. Clement Crooke, who we are informed, has been some time employed by you as an assistant surgeon, we recommend him to succeed to any vacancy which may happen as surgeon on our Bengal Establishment by the death or resignation of Messrs. Gray or Fullerton, provided you approve of him after those who have been already appointed to succeed (if any such there are) shall be provided for.

205. In addition to the Cadets for our forces on the Bengal Establishment mentioned in our letters of the 23rd. of Nov. last, the 7th of Dec. & 6th of Feb. following, we have appointed Hugh Mc Kie, Francis Howe, William Drought, John Spinner & Philip Hamilton, who are to rank & be preferred according to their behaviour in the order they are named next

after those mentioned in our said letters. Mc Kie and Howe take passage on the Lord Anson, Drought on the Prince Edward, Spinner & Hamilton on the Latham.

206. Hugh Mc Kie is to have liberty of proceeding to Bombay, if his father Capt. Hugh Mc Kie is gone to that Presidency.

207. It will be very useful to us to be informed from time to time of the names & rank of our military officers. We therefore direct that you do annually transmit to us in duplicate an exact list of all the officers on your establishment inserting their names therein according to their rank together with dates of their commissions from the times of their first entering into the service to the day the said list shall be dated, as also such remarks as you may think necessary by way of explanation to clear up any difficulties which may occur in forming them.

208. The public papers have lately had an article importing, that they write from Paris that the Comte d'Artois, Le Berrgen, & La Diligente Frigate were to sail the first fair wind from L'Orient for Asia & were to be joined by five or six other ships from different ports on the coast; and by private intelligence we further hear that the regiment De Cambyse one of the oldest & most complete battallions in France was embarking on the said ships with the utmost expedition in hopes of reaching India before our Troops could arrive.

209. We flatter ourselves notwithstanding the expedition the French are using in fitting out this armament, that not only the first embarkation of our Troops will reach India before the Enemy but likewise the second which are now proceeding on the Bengal ships, and that his Majesty's ships will have also joined Mr. Pocock so that we are not in pain on account of this further effort of the enemy.

210. The public papers have likewise an article dated from Paris the 21st March, 1760, advising that the Subtile frigate arrived at Port L' Orient the 16th of that month from the Coast of Choromandel & brought letters importing, that the Squadrons under the command of Mr. D'Ache¹³ & Admiral Pocock had an engagement on the 10th of Sept. & parted without any decisive advantage on either side, that Mr. D'Ache had landed some troops and stores at Pondicherry from whence he sailed on the 1st of October & returned to the Isle of France with all his ships. The same letters add that there had been a sharp engagement between the English & French forces near Arcot in which the latter had the advantage & remained masters of the field. We hope as this is entirely a French account & as some private letters speak in other terms, especially with regard to the Sea

engagement that when we receive advices from Fort St. George it will appear we have had considerably the advantage.

We are,

Your loving Friends,

P. Godfrey/J. Boyd/C. Cutts/H. Crabb-
Boulton/Fitz Wm. Barrington/J. Harrison/
R. Seward/Geo. Dudley/S. Harrison/C.
Gough/Thos. Waters/G. Stevens /W. Thorn-
ton/H. Hadley/Fred. Pigou/R. Smith/
Bourchier Walton/John Browne/G. Rooke/
Christr. Baron/R. Gildart.

London
1st April, 1760.

Postscript

211. Since signing the foregoing, the annual Election of Directors has been made & Committee appointed for the various branches of the Company's Affairs one of which is the Committee of Secrecy & is composed of the following gentlemen, viz Laurence Sullivan Esqr. the Chairman of the Court of Directors for the ensuing year, Thomas Rous Esqr. Deputy Chairman, John Boyd, Christo. Burrow, & Peter Godfrey Esqrs. Three of whom are a quorum. All instructions, orders & directions, therefore, which this committee or the Secret Committee for the time being shall at any time think proper to send must be duly observed and complied with by each & every person or persons to whom they are directed.

We are,

Your loving Friends*,

G. Steevens/C. Gough/H. Savage/J. Dorrien/J.
Browne/F. Pigou/G. Amyand/R. Smith/B. Wal-
ton/H. Hadley/R. Warner/Hy. Crabb Boul-
ton/C. Cutts/T. Waters/T. Tullie/Lau. Sul-
ivan/T. Rous/P. Godfrey/J. Boyd/J. Raymond/
J. Harrison/Christo. Burrow/G. Rooke.

London
3rd April, 1760.

LETTER DATED 5 NOVEMBER 1760

Death of King George II and accession of George III

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

[1] By this conveyance in his Majesty's Ship Seahorse by the Way of Bencoolen we take the opportunity of informing you, that it having pleased

*Laurence Sullivan and Thomas Rous were elected Chairman and Dy Chairman resp. The copyist has mixed up the order in which the Directors signed.

Almighty God to call to his mercy, our late Sovereign Lord King George the second of blessed memory, who deceased suddenly on the 25th of last Month; orders were immediately given for proclaiming his present Majesty George the Third by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland¹ Defender of the Faith & so forth, which was accordingly performed with the usual solemnities the next day in the Cities of London and Westminster amidst the universal acclamations of his Majesty's subjects. Orders are also given for making the like proclamation in all parts of his Majesty's Kingdoms and Dominions which has been accordingly done in all places where notice of this event has reached.

[2] On the 29th of last month the Right Hon'ble Mr. Secretary Pitt transmitted to us some printed copies of the proclamations for proclaiming his Royal Majesty King George the Third & signified to us in a letter dated that day, that we do cause like proclamation to be forthwith proclaimed and published in the several Governments within the Company's jurisdiction in the East Indies with the solemnities & ceremonies usual and accustomed on such an occasion, & for our information enclosed a draught of the Form of the Proclamation to be used. A copy of Mr. Secretary Pitt's letter, as also the said form accompanies this, for your better guidance.

[3] You are, therefore, immediately on receipt hereof to cause his Majesty King George the Third to be proclaimed at Fort William and its dependencies with all the due solemnities and expressions of Loyalty and Duty becoming so important an occasion.

[4] By this conveyance the like directions are given to our Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay, as they may probably reach them before any of our ships arrive there from England.

[5] But lest the packets for those presidencies should miscarry, you are to send to them Copies of this our letter to you by any other conveyances which offer, together with copies of Mr. Secretary Pitt's letter, some of the printed proclamations and the beforementioned form, and acquaint the Governors and Councils of our several presidencies, that they do proclaim his Majesty in like manner as you are directed.

We are,

Your loving friends*,

J. Harrison/G. Steevens/J. Browne/F. Pigou/
C. Gough/T. Waters/H. Crabb Boulton/J.
Dorrien/R. Smith/R. Warner/Hen. Hadley/G.
Dudley/T. Tullie/H. Savage/B. Walton/G.
Rooke/L. Sullivan/T. Rous/P. Godfrey/
C. Burrow/C. Cutts.

London
5th November, 1760.

*Laurence Sullivan and Thomas Rous were elected Chairman and Dy Chairman resp. The copyist has mixed up the order in which the Directors signed.

LETTER DATED 31 DECEMBER 1760

Composition of new Secret Committee of Directors—creation of Fort Marlborough as an independent Presidency—members of Council of Supercargoes in China—goods for Company's settlements in the East—instructions about charterparty terms—instructions regarding China trade—shipping news—arrangements for astronomical observations—composition of Madras Council—observations on fortification of Calcutta—financial provision for investment—satisfaction over defeat of the French on the Coromandel Coast—regulation of private trade by commanders of ships.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We wrote to you the 1st with a postscript of the 3rd of April last and his Majesty's Ship Chatham carried a letter from our Secretary of the 30th May following with some instructions for making observations on the transit of Venus over the Sun on the 6th of June next. His Majestys' ship Seahorse also carried our directions under the 5th of Nov. last by the way of Fort Marlbro', for your proclamation of his present most gracious Majesty King George the Third, duplicate whereof you will receive herewith.

2. Since the date of our above-mentioned letter, it has pleased God to favour us with the safe return of 18 ships with the Diligent & Prince Henry Packets, 16 of them & the last named packet came from St. Helena under the convoy of his Majesty's ship Yarmouth—whereon Admiral Pocock returned from his command in the East Indies—also of the Colchester & Rippon ships of War which went from hence on that service; for further particulars as to the arrival & departure of our shipping in general since the last advices, we refer you to the accompanying list.

3. By such of the said ships as were dispatched directly from your presidency, we received your several letters of the 22nd Oct. : 29th Dec., : 1759, the 1st, 21st & 24th Jan : the 3rd Feb. and 3rd March 1760 with one from the Select Committee of the said 29th Dec : & a letter of the 7th March last from the then President addressed to the Secret Committee.

4. This is dispatched to you by the way of Fort St. George by the ship Hawke appointed to depart before the other ships for the Coast & Bay for conveying to our three presidencies some timely & general informations & directions for the conduct of our affairs. We shall, therefore, defer our particular observations on your beforementioned letters until the departure of the other Ships for the coast & bay.

5. The Gentlemen who compose the Secret Committee this season, are, Laurence Sullivan Esqre. the present Chairman of the Court of Directors, Thomas Rous Esqr. deputy chairman, John Boyd, Christopher

Burrow & Peter Godfrey Esqrs. three of whom are a quorum.—All instructions, Orders and directions the said Committee or the Committee for the time being shall at any time give, must be duly observed and complied with by each person or persons to whom they are directed.

6. Being fully satisfied that the erecting Fort Malbro' into an Independent Presidency will be the means of rendering our settlements upon the West Coast of Sumatra of great advantage & utility to the Company, we have accordingly come to a determination upon this measure & are preparing every thing necessary for effectually carrying the same into execution. Therefore the dependency of the said settlements upon Fort St. George is from this time forward to cease & determine, & we have placed Fort Marlborough & its dependencies under the direction & management of a Governor, & President & Council in the same manner & with as full powers and authority as the rest of our Presidencies. Courts of Justice will also be settled there as at Fort St. George, Bengal & Bombay, a charter for which purpose is now preparing & will be sent by the ships bound thither.

7. Upon this occasion we expect & require that you promote to the utmost of your power every measure which may contribute to make it answer our intentions, by supplying it with goods, Stores, necessaries, men, vessels & indeed whatever the Governor & Council there may apply to you for, or stand in need of from time to time, in the same manner as you have & would usually do with respect to any other of our Presidencies, observing that Fort Marlborough will in this infant state require your most careful attention, not only in the particulars beforementioned, but also by your assistance on all necessary & proper occasions.

8. The Governor or President & Council of our said Presidency at Fort Marlborough are as follows, viz.

Roger Carter Esqr. President & Governor

Rich. Wyatt	}	of Council
Joseph Darvall		
Wm. Norris		
Rich. Preston		
Robt. Hay		
Alex. Hall		
Hen. Idell		
Christo. Wattson		

9. A Select Committee is also appointed for transacting affairs of a secret nature which consists of the following named persons, viz. President Carter, Mr. Richard Wyatt and Mr. Joseph Darvall—but in case of the absence of the two last named gentlemen as the Committee is always to consist of three persons, their places are to be filled by the next members of the Council according to their rank.

10. You are accordingly to keep a regular correspondence with the said President and Council & Select Committee in their several departments as often as opportunities offer.

11. You were last year fully informed of our intentions for reserving the trade in Opium to the West Coast, entirely in our own hands & continuing in the same sentiments, we expect you have conformed thereto, & direct that you do from time to time supply the demands of the President & Council of Fort Marlborough for this article in the best and cheapest manner.

12. These general directions with respect to our said Presidency of Fort Marlborough may be sufficient for your present information, whatever may be further necessary will be communicated in our future advices.

13. The set of supra cargoes appointed to manage our affairs in China for the ships which will be there in the year 1761, are formed into a council in the following rank and order, viz.,

Mr. Henry Palmer	Chief
Mr. Samuel Blount	Second
Mr. George Manderville	Third
Mr. Hillary Torriano	Fourth
Mr. Nathaniel Garland	Fifth
Mr. William Mackenzie	Sixth
Mr. Francis Kinnersley	Seventh
Mr. Francis Wood	Eighth
Mr. Thomas Sandys	Ninth
Mr. Thomas Smyth	Tenth
Mr. William Rous &	Eleventh
Mr. Robert White	Twelfth

14. Messrs. Blount, Kinnersley and Wood are already in China, the other supra-cargoes are to proceed thither in the following manner, viz., Messrs. Palmer, Torriano and Smith on the Prince Henry. — Messrs. Manderville and Sandys on the Worcester; Garland and White on the Prince George; and Mackenzie and Rous on the Osterley. The Prince Henry goes first to St. Helena & the others to Fort Marlborough as you will see by the following list of ships.

15. As we have found the utility of having always some supra-cargoes to reside at Canton, the gentlemen we have appointed residents for the year 1762 are Messrs. Blount, Garland, Kinnersley, Wood, Smith and Rous.

16. The following is a list of the ships we have taken up this season for the service of the Company to which are added their consignments and the times when it is proposed they shall be dispatched on their respective voyages, viz.

Ships	Burthen	Commanders	Consignments
Hawke	499	Geo. Kent	Coast & Bay
Prince Henry	499	Chas. Haggis	S. Helena & China

Under dispatch

Ships	Burthen	Commanders	Consignments
Pitt	600	Joseph Jackson	Fort S. George & China.
Worcester	499	Richd. Hall	Bencoolen and China The end of Janry.
Osterley	499	Fred. Vincent	
Pce. George	499	Andrew Rous	
Plassey	499	James Ward	Coast and Bay The end of Feb.
Warren	499	Alph. Glover	
Fox	499	Alex. Hume	
E. of Holderness	499	R. Brooke Junr.	
Boscawen	499	B. Braund	Bombay. The end of March.
New Ship	499	A. Evans	
Calcutta	499	Geo. Willson	
New Ship	499	P. Crichton	
New Ship	499	Nath. Tanner	

17. Our own ship the Royal George whereof Capt. Nichol Skottowe is the commander proceeds first to China on a particular service & is then designed for Fort St. George; the time of her departure from England will be about the end of January.

18. The Diligent & Prince Henry sloops belonging to the Company go to Madagascar for Slaves for the use of our Presidency of Fort Marlborough at wh. place they are afterwards to be employed by the Governor & Council there.

19. The ships as beforementioned taken into the Company's Service this season not being sufficient to carry all the consignments for the several settlements on account of the very great tonnage required for naval, victualling & other stores for the use of his Majesty's ships & troops in India & yet those ships being rather more than are wanted for returning Cargoes, we have therefore been under the necessity of having 3 large ships to be employed on a voyage to India only to be paid for the goods they carry out, which being delivered, they are to be disposed of agreeable to the directions we send to those presidencies where they are Consigned to; their names, burthen & destination are as follows, viz.,

Chesterfield	600	Capt.....	} Coast & Bay
Norfolk	600	James Mc.Conohie	
General Laurence	650	William Scott	Bombay.

20. The mercantile part of our exports on the beforementioned ships for our several settlements & China will consist of the following articles & quantities as nearly as we can at present form a judgment, viz.,

For the Presidency of Fort St. George

398 bales of cloth—15 bales of Longells.
16 bales of Gamblets & allopeens.

300 tons of Copper—40 tons of lead.
40 tons of Iron—1½ tons of Steel.

For the Presidency of Fort William

1609 bales of cloth—250 bales of Longells.
1000 pieces of ditto of yard & half wide.
30 pieces of Velvets—500 tons of copper.
40 tons of lead & 40 tons of Iron, and 5 tons of steel.

For the Presidency of Bombay & its Subordinate Settlements, viz.

For the Scindy Market.

276 bales of Cloth—77 bales of Longells.
a few velvets—4 casks of cochineal.
& 3 or 4 tons of Elephants teeth.

For the Bombay Market

1200 bales of cloth—239 bales of Longells.
a few pieces of Camblets & velvets.
580 tons of Copper—30 tons of lead.
40 tons of Iron—10 tons of steel.

For the Gombroon Market¹

189 bales of cloth & 60 bales of Longells.
& Shalloons which 60 bales contain only 10 pieces in each.

For the Bussora Market

418 bales of cloth and 160 bales of Longells and Shalloons—which 160 bales contain only 10 pieces in each.

For the Presidency of Fort Marlbro'

40 chests of treasure—40 tons of iron & some few other particulars, the rest of the consignments will be principally stores & necessaries for the use of the settlements on the West Coast.

For Canton

53 Chests of treasure—564 bales of cloth.
532 bales of Longells—300 pieces of Camblets, 300 pieces of Hairbines and 540 tons of lead.

21. Besides the mercantile articles on the Company's Account, the naval & victualling stores to be laden for account of the Government on the beforementioned ships will amount to between eleven & twelve hundred tons one half whereof will go in the ships bound for Fort St. George, & the other

on the Bombay ships. The clothing for the King's troops will amount to 80 tons more at least besides about 2 tons in clothing for the Artillery Companies to be sent in the ship bound to the coast & bay wh. we mention lest any of those corps should be with you or the articles come to your hands, as has before happened.

22. The rest of the tonnage in our several before mentioned ships will be taken up in accommodating with a passage the military recruits in complying with the indents from our several Presidencies & yours in particular, for naval & warlike stores, also stores & necessaries of various kinds for use & sale.

23. From the disposition of this season's tonnage it will readily appear how impracticable it is to send any Madeira wine; you are therefore to expect none until we can find more room for that article, which we hope may be in the following season.

24. You will observe that we do not send treasure to any places, but our Presidency of Fort Marlborough & to Canton, but of this we shall speak further in another part of this letter.

25. Having thus given a general view of our intended export this season we must refer you to the invoices of the several ships bound to Bengal for the consignments to you in particular, & as the coast & bay ships will most of them have consignments to Fort William that you may suffer as little inconvenience as possible from a want of their cargoes, we have urged the presidency of Fort St. George to give them an expeditious dispatch to you & not detain any part of them; but should it appear necessary to them to keep this or any other of the coast & bay ships there or dispatch such home from thence directly they have our orders to send the cargoes & packets intended for you by some other good conveyances & the latter in particular as soon as possible.

26. A clause was introduced into the Charter-parties last year & you will observe is continued in the Charter-parties of the ships of this season also, with respect to the adjustment & payment for Damages & goods lost or undelivered to wh. you are particularly to attend. By the said clause it is agreed that the amount of such damages & short delivery shall not be paid and made good in India, but shall be paid by the owners to the Company in London upon demand, upon their producing to the owners a true account of the adjustment in India of such loss or Damage, although the ship shall or may happen to be lost before her arrival at or shall not return in safety to the Port of London. It is thereby agreed also that the owner shall not be charged with any sum of money in respect of goods damaged, either in the outward or homeward bound voyage but such as shall by the condition & appearance thereof or by some other reasonable proof appear to be ship damage.

27. We must observe to you that the owners have made a very different construction of the words 'ship damage' before mentioned to what we could ever have imagined, by confining it to the limited sense, the words literally

signify, whereas it was our opinion when the said words were introduced they meant all damage whatsoever wh. goods received actually on board, without distinction whether it proceeded from bad weather or any other accidents. We should have set this matter right in the Charter-parties of the present season, but the owners positively insisting on the said words being continued and it being too late for us to help ourselves, we have, with great reluctance, been obliged to acquiesce.

28. Although we shall not easily give up this point to the owners even as the words at present stand yet it shows the necessity of your being very particular & careful in describing & ascertaining how & in what manner the damages or short deliveries before mentioned appear together with every circumstance wh. may tend to assist us in forming a judgment thereon; this you are without fail to conform to on stating every ship's account in order for our adjusting the same with the owners.

29. The other parts of the Charter-party are nearly the same as last season excepting that the owners have increased upon the freight at the rate of 40 shillings a ton & one penny a day per ton demorage, the demorage in time of war having been always until this season 9d. a ton, whereas it is now 10 pence.

30. We have agreed with the owners that it shall be a standing rule (although it is not inserted in the Charter-parties) that in case the Admiral or Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's ships in the East Indies shall take any seamen out of any of the Company's Ships there, by wh. means the commander shall be obliged to hire Lascars in their room for navigating such ships home, an account be stated of the expense which shall accrue by their hire-wages, maintenance in England & passage back to India, & another account of what would have been paid to the seamen had they not been so detained; & the exceeding in the expense of the said Lascars to be borne as follows, viz. Two-thirds by the Company, & one-third by the owners. We take notice of this agreement that you may in case of such circumstances happening, give us the necessary informations for stating such accounts as the owners are to be paid by us here & not in India.

31. In consequence of your express orders in writing to Capt. Doveton of the Bombay Castle to receive aboard his ship as passengers for England Capt. Muckle & Lieut. Gowan of the King's Train at the Company's expense, we have been obliged to pay Capt. Doveton £ 30 each for those persons, accommodations & dieting at his table. As such measure may if further pursued, be attended with great expenses to the Company, let it be a standing rule with you that whenever an order is given for any person to be received aboard any of the Company's ships, it be particularly expressed therein that the Captain do receive such person aboard, and carry him to England, affording him all needful accommodations in the voyage, he paying the expense of his passage & the Company being at no charge thereby except however any of the Company's own invalid military under the rank of commission ~~officers~~, who are chargeable to the Company or are likely to

be so and are not able to pay for or work their passage home; such may be sent at the Company's expense upon the Charter-party terms for passengers which you will observe to be at this time £10 a head. As for such of the Company's own Military who are discharged or have served their times out, they are to be sent on board such ships as want men or whose captains will take them to work for their passage home and it is to be observed as a general rule that the Company be not put to any further expense than the said Charter-party terms of £10 a head or any Charter-party terms which may be hereafter settled for the passage home of any person whatsoever.

32. You having lately sent home several invalid soldiers to whom it had been intimated that they would be taken care of for their lives by the Company, it is necessary therefore that you should be informed that we have no fund for such a purpose, nor can we raise one. It is true in some particular instances we have given small sums of money to such persons who have appeared to be real objects of compassion to assist towards putting them in a way of getting their bread but this is a matter of mere occasional charity only; an annual allowance cannot be made & we cannot here avoid taking notice that some of the said invalid soldiers from Bengal were really capable of further service.

33. As the Pitt does not answer the Expectations we formed of her when she first proceeded to India in the capacity of a Ship of War, she is now upon the same footing as our other mercantile Ships.

34. We have strongly recommended it to the presidency of Fort S. George to unlade the Pitt designed thence for China & dispatch her thither with the utmost Expedition to avoid all hazard of a loss of passage directing them to put on board such goods as they can provide in time and may be proper for the Canton Market with such treasure as they shall be able to spare from the supplies which we hope they will have been furnished with from you & Bombay, consigning the whole to our agents at Canton.

35. We have informed our agents at Canton that they are to take upon them the management of such ship or ships as have been customarily called casual ships, that is to say, such as may happen to be sent from any of our presidencies & for which no Supra Cargoes have been named by us—should you therefore by any unforeseen accidents be at a loss to dispatch home any ship or Ships on your hands you are to dispatch such ship or ships to our said agents with a cargo on each to as large an amount as you can spare in treasure & goods if you have any of the latter, fit for the Canton Market, the total of each of such ships invoice not to be less, if possible than £20,000.

36. As the China trade is our principal resource for valuable returns it is of the utmost importance to feed it with as plentiful remittances as circumstance will admit of. We therefore recommend it to you in the strongest manner to take every opportunity to send to Fort S. George whatever treasure you can possibly spare from time to time that it may [be] consigned from thence to our Agents at Canton.

37. We have given the like directions to our other presidencies which directions they and you are to look upon & observe as standing orders to be complied with, whenever it shall appear necessary to send a casual ship to Canton, or have treasure to spare and proper conveyances offer.

38. We signified to you last season that it was our intentions [*sic*] for the future to have the whole produce of pepper at all our settlements upon the West Coast annually reserved for & sent to China and none sent to England until we gave notice to the contrary; as we continue in the same resolution, you are not to send any ship or ships thither to complete or take in any part of their cargoes for Europe without our further orders.

39. In consequence of our said intentions the ships Worcester, Osterley & Prince George are consigned directly to our presidency of Fort Marlborough where they are to deliver the soldiers, treasure, stores and merchandize intended for the use of the settlements upon the West Coast of Sumatra. When that is done the Governor & Council are to load on the said ships all the pepper they may have on hand, or can collect together in time so as not to hazard their passage. They are likewise to put aboard what tin they may have in warehouse if in pursuance of our former orders to them they may have procured any from the strait of Mallacca, as also what treasure they can spare, this being done they are to dispatch them directly & consign them to our agents at Canton. They are advised that the said ships being dispatched without loss of time is more necessary as the bulk of the woollen goods intended for the China market is on board them, and that therefore their arrival will materially affect the prices they may be sold at in favour of the Company.

40. Finding some persons have on their own private affairs resided the year round in China, and as this is a practice we will by no means admit of we have given positive directions to our Agents at Canton to cause such persons so residing or who have any intentions to do so to leave China & proceed by the first proper conveyances to the parts of India from whence they came. They are to make this our order publicly known that no person or persons may have any pretence for staying at Canton longer than the usual season for the departure of shipping for any of our presidencies or settlements or elsewhere in India, and the more effectually to put an end to this practice, you are not to suffer any persons to proceed to China from the presidency of Fort William with a view of staying any longer than until the departure of shipping from thence as beforementioned. Of this you must give the most public notice, and make it a rule for your conduct, in all future seasons; the like directions are sent likewise to all our other presidencies.

41. In a former part of this letter we have taken notice that our own ship the Royal George proceeds first to Canton, on a particular service which being performed, it is our intentions she shall proceed to Fort S. George. We have accordingly given directions to our agents there as soon as it is a proper season for her proceeding on her voyage to give her a full lading of

Camphire [camphor], Sugar, Tutena[gue]] and such articles as they shall judge will turn to the best account, and consign and dispatch her therewith accordingly to our President & Council at Fort St. George.

42. When the Royal George shall have discharged her loading from China it is our intention to have her employed in such a manner as may be most [suitable?] for the Company's service at any of our settlements, and if it shall appear really necessary & conducive thereto that she be detained a season extraordinary in India, you & our other presidencies wheresoever she may happen to be destined or employed are therefore, to act according to circumstances & the best of yours & their judgment, observing in general that if it shall be thought proper to return her home the season of her arrival, or the following one it be early enough to prevent the loss of her passage.

43. Wherever she arrives or from whatever place she shall be dispatched she must be victualled and put in the best condition in every respect for proceeding from port to port and for her return to England; this must be done at the Company's Expense, and the proper accounts transmitted to us.

44. One principal object we have in view is that she may be useful in bringing us early intelligence of what is transacting at this critical period in the different parts of India. You must make her therefore subservient to this purpose as much as possible, not only by sending a detail of the affairs at your presidency but by collecting what you can from the others.

45. At the same time that she is intended for the purpose of bringing advices, she is of a burthen to carry goods sufficient to earn the expenses of her voyage, a cargo therefore is to be laden on her according to discretion; if the dispatches she shall be charged with are important & require expedition, & consequently may run more hazard in such case the cargo must not be very valuable; but if on the contrary there is no necessity for her running greater hazards than our other shipping then it may be to a larger amount; but the whole as is said before must be left to the discretion of the Company's Agent's at such places where she may happen to be, as must her being directed to call at St. Helena, or running through without touching there be determined by the Governor (in his secret orders) of such place from whence it shall be thought proper to dispatch her.

46. The foregoing directions you will observe are similar to those we sent upon the Royal George's proceeding to India last voyage, & wh. were also to be followed with respect to the Company's ship the Admiral Watson wh. went out last season. They are in the nature of outlines & may therefore be discretionally perfected & improved in such a manner as may be most beneficial to the Company. If the Royal George proceeds to any other of our presidencies these directions must be communicated to the Governor & Council of such presidency for their information and guidance.

47. It is nevertheless to be observed that the Royal George is not to be sent to Madagascar or Mozambique for slaves for the service of the West Coast, as we directed last season the Admiral Watson should from Bombay, [sic]

48. Of the five ships stationed for Bombay this season only three of them are to be returned directly home, viz.

The Boscawen	Capt. Braund.
Calcutta	Willson.
and the [.....]	Tanner.
The other two, viz.	
The [.....]	Capt. Evans.
and the [.....]	Crichton.

are to be employed until the year 1762 when they are to be dispatched, in the proper seasons, the first named to Mocha for a cargo of Coffee to be brought to England and the other according to our annual custom to Canton with a Malabar Cargo from whence she is to be returned to us directly with a China Cargo.

49. The returning all those ships home from our several presidencies which are not directed to be kept in India the same season they arrive is of the utmost importance especially considering the very heavy expense of demorage in this time of war, we therefore recommend it to you as we also do to our other presidencies in the strongest manner mutually to aid & assist each other in the loading not only the ships destined for your presidency, but of those likewise of our other presidencies, & if thro' unforeseen events any of them cannot be dispatched home the season of their arrival, or sent to China under the description of casual ships as has been before recommended that you also act in concert with our other presidencies for employing them to the best advantage until the time of their proceeding home but you are to observe from what has been mentioned in a preceding part of this letter you are not to send any ship to Fort Marlborough to complete her loading for Europe as all the pepper is to be sent from thence to China.

50. Neither the coast & bay ships of this season or those wh. are to be sent home directly from Bombay have any Iron Kintlage in consequence a larger proportion of Salt-petre will be wanted for them. It will therefore be incumbent upon you by the earliest & best opportunities to furnish the presidencies of Fort S. George & Bombay according to their demands with a sufficiency of Salt-petre for their effectually answering our intentions in this respect.

51. That you may be the better able to send our ships home the same season, you may in want of other goods make up the tonnage with Salt-petre send them home with their bare. Charter-party tonnage, or even something dead freighted rather than detain them a season extraordinary, but in these points much must be left to discretion and we shall accordingly depend upon your acting in such a manner as shall be most [useful?] for the Company's Interest.

52. The sale of the Bengal goods being but lately finished we could not prepare a list of the Investment soon enough to send it by this conveyance. You are therefore to be providing what goods you can for the ensuing season

in wh. you are in a great measure to govern yourselves by the list which was sent last season.

53. Should it so fortunately happen that there will be goods sufficient to give a surplus tonnage to our returning shipping, it is recommended to you to distribute such surplus tonnage in such a manner as may put every ship upon an equal footing as can be done.

54. Similar directions with respect to our returning shipping are sent to the presidencies of Fort S. George and Bombay for their observance.

55. His Majesty having been graciously pleased to encourage the making observations upon the transit of Venus over the Sun on the 6th of June next, and proper persons being engaged by the Royal Society for that service, two to go to the Island of St. Helena and two to Fort Marlborough. As this is done to make some improvements in Astronomy which will be of general utility, they are to be properly maintained and assisted at the Company's Expense, the two gentlemen, therefore, who proceed on his Majesty's ship the Sea-Horse to Fort Marlborough on this occasion are by our directions to that presidency to be accommodated during their stay on the West Coast in a suitable manner with diet and apartments[sic] and they are to be assisted as to materials, workmen—and whatever else the service they are employed upon may require—as there is no ship to come directly home from Fort Marlborough a passage is to be provided for them by any good conveyance that offers by the way of China or to any other of our presidencies—if, therefore, those gentlemen shall come to your presidency, they are to be accommodated in a suitable manner with apartments and diet at the Company's Expense during their residence at Bengal, and you are to provide them with a passage home on any of our returning ships, & you are to give the Captain an order to receive & afford them all needful accommodation in the voyage, & to be dieted at his own table for which satisfaction shall be made by us to such Captain on the Ship's arrival in England.

56. Our secretary writ to you by our directions last year by his Majesty's Ship the Chatham upon this subject. We shall expect, therefore, that you have given notice to such persons who are qualified to make observations upon the said transit agreeable to our pleasure therein signified, notwithstanding the appointment of the before mentioned gentlemen for that service.

57. In consequence of our President Mr. Pigot's desire to return home from Madras when the unsettled situation of Affairs shall permit by the discontinuance of the War, we have from a conviction of the benefits that we shall derive from the abilities and experience of Mr. Robert Palk fixed upon him to succeed to the Government of Fort St. George, whenever Mr. Pigot shall resign it and have settled the Council there in the following manner :

George Pigot Esqr.	. President & Governor.
Robert Palk Esqr.	. Second in Council & to succeed to the Govt.

Mr. John Smith .	Third in Council
Mr. Chas. Bouchier .	Fourth in Council
Mr. Dawsonne Drake .	Fifth in Council
Mr. John Andrews .	Sixth in Council
Mr. John Pylus .	Seventh in Council
Mr. Richd. Fairfield .	Eighth in Council
Mr. Samuel Ardley .	Ninth in Council
Mr. Chas. Turner .	Tenth in Council
Mr. Thos. Heath .	Eleventh in Council

58. We have thought proper also to appoint Major General Stringer Laurence to the station of Commander in Chief of all the Company's Forces in India.

59. That gentleman was lately advanced by his Majesty's Brevet from the rank of Colonel to that of Major General in the East Indies only.

60. We have appointed the following persons to be writers on the Bengal establishment, viz. George Vansittart, Samuel Bartholomew Case, William Majendie, & Nicolas Grueber who are to be ranked in the other [order] they are named and will take their passage on the ships of this season.

61. We have appointed Mr. Parker Hatley now residing in Bengal as a free merchant, to be a factor upon the Establishment of our presidency at Fort Marlborough. You are therefore to acquaint him, it is our pleasure, that he do accordingly proceed to his station by the first proper conveyance.

62. As the recruits for his Majesty's Land forces will take up all the room which can be spared in our coast & bay ships, we cannot send any for our own troops this season.

63. We have appointed the following named persons to be cadets in our forces upon the Bengal establishment who are to be promoted, if they behave well, in turn next after those have been provided for, who have been already recommended, viz. John R. Roche, Joseph Thomson, Wm. Lennon, Thos. Pearson, John Coker, & Edw. Ferrar, also James Kelly to rank as appointed in the advices last year per Onslow next Mr. Isaac Humphreys.

64. We cannot avoid taking this early opportunity of observing that the expense of the fortifications at Fort William already amount to an excessive sum, & if completed upon the extensive plan, adopted contrary to our original intentions will be immense. Altho' we have reason to believe you will before this reaches you, be sensible of the impropriety of these extensive works and have taken proper measures to reduce the plan. However, should that not be the case, you are to put a stop to the outworks until our further orders which you will have by our next ships, as we are informed these will near equal in expense the body of the place.

65. In a former part of this letter you are acquainted we do not send treasure to any places, but our presidency of Fort Marlborough and to Canton. We have been induced to this measure upon taking a view of the situation of our several presidencies with respect to their money transactions, it is our opinion that you seem most to stand in need of assistance to enable you to provide for your large and valuable investments. For considering our presidency of Fort St. George is now by the superiority of our arms over the French in a manner in possession of almost all the revenues of the Nabob's territories as well what have been particularly assigned over to the Company by grants, mortgages or otherways as of those the enemy possessed, considering also the very large remittances you made them in the beginning of the year 1760 more than they could possibly have occasion we cannot but be of opinion the Governor & Council there will not only have treasure sufficient for the various services of that Presidency but even to assist you largely. Notwithstanding the Governor & Council of Bombay have signified no dependence was to be had upon them for remittances out of their stock, we have not the least doubt that before this reaches you they will have seen their error and have accordingly made large remittances either to you or Fort St. George for it is amazing to us how they could write in such a discouraging manner when they had such a prodigious balance in their hands as appears by the last quick stock account transmitted to us.

66. As you may most probably therefore have remittances both from Fort St. George and Bombay which we have earnestly recommended to those presidencies, these with your large revenues and the monies to be paid you by the Nabob we apprehend, will sufficiently supply you with what sums you shall want for the various occasions of your presidency, add thereto that as the favorable alterations we made last season in the exchange for monies to be paid into cash at Fort St. George and Bombay as well as at your presidency will we make no doubt induce persons to pay in considerable sums for bills upon us which when other resources are not sufficient we have good reason to believe will prove effectual.

67. You and our presidencies of Fort S. George and Bombay being by our directions to be mutually assisting to each other remittances are to be made where they are wanted by such presidencies as can spare them. You are therefore, to make the earliest requisitions of what you may stand in need of but more particularly to Bombay. On the other hand, if our presidency of Fort S. George wants such assistance and you may happen to have a surplus stock you are to remit thither as much thereof as can prudently be spared.

68. It has pleased God to bless the British Arms with most remarkable success against the French in all parts of the world in the course of this year & the most vigorous measures are still pursuing as the best and indeed only means of bringing the enemy to equitable terms of accommodation and attaining that desirable object, a safe and honourable peace, although the generous

overture made by his late Majesty last winter towards a congress for a pacification has not yet produced a suitable return, yet it is hoped the distressed condition of the enemy will operate so strongly before the opening of the next campaign that they will find themselves under the necessity of relieving their distress by agreeing to such terms as shall in their present condition be reasonable. These, however, are at present only our wishes as we do not find any overtures have this year been made on the part of either nation.

69. We do not know of any French force proceeding to India this season, at least none of any great consequence. Whenever we can get any intelligence of their intentions & motions with respect to the East Indies, we shall give you the earliest information.

70. It is with great pleasure we look upon the advantages gained over the enemy by the King's and Company's land forces upon the Coast of Chormandel, and equally so upon the gallant behaviour of his Majesty's naval forces. We are greatly obliged to Admiral Steevens & Colonel Coote, as also to Colonel Monson for the services they have rendered to the Company in their several departments. We have desired the President & Council there to signify it to those gentlemen how truly sensible we are of their merit, and this you will not fail to do should any of those officers be with you on the receipt hereof.

71. There is the greatest reason to believe that the ascendancy over the enemy both by sea & land in India will be maintained by our present superiority of force & we cannot help flattering ourselves that it will not be long before we hear that Pondicherry itself is fallen never to rise more.

72. As we shall in our next general letter speak particularly to[of?] the late extraordinary behaviour of the Dutch, we shall now only inform you that the defeat of their attempt so very successfully has given us great satisfaction.

73. We cannot at present say with any certainty whether the Ministry intend to reinforce his Majesty's ships in the East Indies this season or not, but we have some reason to believe that apprehending the naval force now there is sufficient to keep the enemy in awe & prevent their making any material attempts to our prejudice they do not propose to send any; by the next conveyances we shall however be able to give you a more particular information.

74. In order to keep up a respectable land force in India, His Majesty has been graciously pleased to give directions for about 76 soldiers to proceed in the ship Hawke to recruit Colonel Draper's battallion, as also for 5 independent companies consisting nearly of the number of 600 men more, commission and non-commission officers included who are to take passage on the ships bound to the Coast and Bay.

75. If the Chevalier otherways Count Crillon^s who was taken prisoner in the sloop Favorite on or about the 10th of August 1759, by our ship the Royal George and was afterwards as we apprehend, soon after exchanged,



Lyre Coote

should at this time be a prisoner of war or may hereafter happen to be so at any of our settlements you are at the desire of the Right Hon'ble Mr. Secretary Pitt to use him in a gentlemanlike manner and render him all the good offices in your power.

76. Since writing the foregoing we have received an overland letter from Bombay under date of the 27th of May, by which and some private advices Mr. Shaw received at Bossorah we have the pleasure of learning that the French were reduced to their only settlement of Pondicherry which either actually was or would soon be invested both by sea & land. Application was made we find by the Govr. & Council of Fort St. George both to you & our presidency of Bombay to assist them with some troops on this important occasion the latter accordingly sent the King's three companies of Artillery & a company of our own Infantry. We hope to hear you have been able to spare some forces from Bengal, & we cannot help flattering ourselves this effort has been attended with the wished for success & that we shall soon hear Pondicherry has surrendered to the British Arms.

77. At the same time the beforementioned advices came to hand we received the disagreeable news from the Governor & Council at Fort Marlborough & Mr. Herbert at Batavia that 2 French ships of war were on the West Coast of Sumatra in the month of February last Those advices leave us in a state of uncertainty as to the consequences of the enemy's attempt upon our settlements there but presuming we are in possession of Fort Marlborough at least, we flatter ourselves you & our other presidencies have given & will give all the timely assistance in yours & their power to secure it against any future attempts in which we make no doubt Admiral Steevens has readily concurred.

78. It has been currently reported advices have been received at Paris that several ships of Mr. D' Ache's Squadron were lost or disabled in a hurricane at the Isle of Bourbon. If this piece of news is true (which it is generally believed to be) his Majesty's naval force may be employed in such manner as will best tend to the security of our shipping & settlements of least force against any of the enemy's straggling cruisers, and indeed whether it is true or not, it seems most probable this is the plan they will pursue as most likely to hurt us. We have directed our presidencies of Fort St. George & Bombay to consult Admiral Steevens & desire him to take such measures to defeat their designs as shall be judged necessary in the situation, affairs shall be in on their receipt of the said directions. This we communicate to you as well for your information as that you may concur so far as may be in your power in concerting the proper measures accordingly. This has been notified also to our other presidencies.

79. Mr. Charles Hampton, one of our late factors at Fort Marlborough having resigned the Company's Service & went as we are informed to Bengal. As we do not choose that any of our servants so leaving the service

should ramble to any of our settlements without our especial license, you are therefore to send the said Mr Hampton to England and you are to observe it as a general rule that when any of our servants are out of the service by resignation, dismissal or other ways you are to take care that they return [to] England directly.

80. Having formed & settled a new regulation or indulgence for trade allowed to be carried by the commanders & officers of the ships employed in the Company's service, we enclose a printed copy thereof signed by our Secretary for your information & that you may take the utmost care to see as far as in you lays that it is not exceeded in any respect whatsoever.

81. You will observe by our said new regulation or indulgence we have allowed our commanders & officers to carry out to a certain amount in coral, coral beads, pearls, emeralds & precious stones, you will further observe by the accompanying manifests what each person does accordingly carry out. Agreeable therefore to the said new regulation or indulgence you are to receive of them the same duties thereon as other licensed traders in those articles are charged with on the Company's account, and we do allow the Governor in like manner, to receive the usual consulage or commission of 2 per cent thereon for his own use.

We are,

Your loving friends,

Lau:Sullivan/T. Rous/P. Godfrey/G. Amyand/
C. Cutts/J. Dorrien/F. Pigou/C. Gough/H.
C. Boulton/G. Steevens/Geo. Dudley/J. Har-
rison/G. Rooke/H. Savage/J. Browne/ J.
Raymond/H. Hadley/T. Tullie/R. Warner/
T. Waters.

London,
31st Dec: 1760.

7

LETTER DATED 21 JANUARY 1761

Fresh appointments to Fort William Board on dismissal of Holwell and others.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

[1.] We have taken under our most serious consideration the general letter from our late President & Council at Fort William, dated the 29th of Dec: 1759, & many paragraphs therein containing gross insults upon and indignities offered to the Court of Directors tending to the subversion of our authority over our servants & a dissolution of all order & good government in the Company's affairs. To put an immediate stop therefore to this evil we

do positively order and direct that immediately upon the receipt of this letter all those persons still remaining in the Company's service who signed the said letter of the 29th of Dec. 1759, viz. Messrs. John Zephaniah Holwell, Charles Stafford Playdell, William Brightwell Sumner & William Mc. Guire, be dismissed from the Company's Service, & you are to take care that they be not permitted on any consideration to continue in India but that they are to be sent to England by the first ships which return home the same season you receive this letter. Should Messrs. Manningham & Frankland happen to be in Bengal, upon the receipt of this letter they also are to be forthwith returned in like manner to England.

[2.] As we cannot before the departure of this ship settle the [Council of Fort] William, therefore [upon the dismissal] of Messrs. [Holwell, Playdell Sumner Mc. Guire the following named persons are to conduct and manage the Company's Affairs in Bengal until our further pleasure is signified to you by the next ships with respect to all those below Mr Batson, viz.

Henry Vansittart Esqr. President
 Mr Peter Amyatt
 Mr William Ellis
 Mr Stanlake Batson
 Mr William Billers
 Mr Harry Verelst
 Mr Harry Smyth
 Mr Samuel Waller
 Mr Culling Smith

[3.] If there shall appear any reasonable objections against any of the beforenamed members below Mr. Batson and not otherways you are to appoint so many others in their room provisionally what you [shall judge] are in all respects fitly qualified as that the Council do consist of 9 persons the President included. We mean no more by the not confirming the said persons below Mr. Batson than that we are desirous of taking the time until the dispatch of the next ships to consider more maturely of the settling our Fort William Council.

[4.] Mr. Ellis is to be of the Select Committee, and Colonel Coote and our Major are to be consulted and act therein and also in other affairs agreeable to former directions.

We are,

Your loving friends,

Lau. Sullivan/T. Rous/P. Godfrey/J. Boyd/
 R. Warner/H. Hadley/G. Amyand/R. Smith/
 G. Rooke/G. Dudley/T. Waters/G. Steevens/
 B. Walton/J. Browne/H. C. Boulton/J. Harrison/
 T. Tullie/C. Cutts/F. Pigou/J. Dorrien/
 C. Gaugh/H. Savage.

London,
 21st Jan. 1761.

LETTER DATED 13 MARCH 1761

Shipping news—reward to crews for gallant action against the Dutch—importance of making gunpowder in India—coinage from Company's mint at Fort William—Anglo—French naval engagements—instructions about charging the Nawab for military expenses—appreciation of conduct towards the Dutch—Company's share in spoils of war—uneasiness over huge expense in fortifying Calcutta—instructions for management of newly acquired lands—confirmation of members of Fort William Board appointed earlier—dismissal of Pearkes—dissatisfaction at the disobedience of Company's servants—Stringer Lawrence as commander of Company's troops in the East Indies—instructions about use of surplus from restitution money—errors of omission and commission in accounts—allowances of King's forces—perquisites for President of Fort William Board.

OUR President & Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. By the ship Hawke we writ to you under date of 31st of Dec. last, a duplicate went by the Pitt & you will receive two other transcripts by these conveyances; the said letter contains some general informations & directions. The Pitt carried likewise a short letter of the 21st of January following expressing our just resentment of the insults & indignities offered to us by the late President & Council in that most extraordinary letter of theirs dated the 29th Dec. 1759 and containing an order for the immediate dismissing from our service Messrs. John Zephaniah Holwell, Charles Stafford Playdell, William Brightwell Sumner and William Mc.Guire; other transcripts of which letter are also transmitted by these conveyances.

2. We are now to send you such other informations & directions as are necessary for your guidance in the conduct of our affairs together with some observations upon the advices received from your Presidency in the course of the last season all which are ranged as follows under the usual heads. But we must first promise that this letter is as usual directed to the Presidency and in course many parts relate to the transactions of the members of our late Council but as you our present members will easily distinguish them there is no necessity for varying in every instance the manner of our address.

Ist of Shipping

3. For the time of departure of the several ships & vessels which have been already dispatched from hence, we refer you to the accompanying lists.

4. The ships Warren, Earl of Holderness, Fox and Plassey consigned to Fort S. George & your presidency bring you this letter being partly laden for both settlements as will appear by their several invoices & bills of lading.

5. The Chesterfield and Norfolk hired for the voyage to India only will follow soon after the said ships are laden & consigned in the like manner, with the remains of the goods & stores for our said two presidencies.

6. The said several ships carry King's troops & Government Stores as will be more particularly noticed under the proper head.

7. All the Coast & Bay ships are to be forwarded from Fort S. George to Bengal as soon after they have landed their troops & delivered their consignments at the first named place as possible as well for your convenience as that they may be returned to us in a proper season (the beforementioned ships Chesterfield and Norfolk excepted). However if it may be more for our Interest to have one or two dispatched directly home from Fort S. George (except as before excepted) our President & Council there are in such case to make use of that liberty taking care to send to Bengal the consignments they are charged with for you by some other good conveyances.

8. In our letter of the 31st of Dec. we gave you such general direction for the returning our several ships to Europe (except those which are hired the voyage to India only) and the measures to be taken by our several presidencies for mutually assisting each other in so important a service that we have nothing further to say on this subject than to refer you to our said letter.

9. You have been already informed that on account of the large exports provided this season for our several settlements, the very great quantity of Government stores, together with the room wanted for accommodating the troops with a passage we have been under the necessity of hiring three large ships in addition to the shipping taken up in the usual manner, viz. The Norfolk of 600 tons, 80 men and 26 guns, Capt. James McConohie, the Chesterfield of 600 tons, 80 men & 26 guns Capt. Willoughby Merchant and the General Laurence of 650 tons, 80 men & 26 guns Capt. Wm. Scott the two first of which are destined for Fort S. George and Fort William & the other for Bombay. The said ships are let to us for the run to India only, & not to be returned again to Europe. By the ships themselves we mean those consigned to the Coast & Bay. You will receive copies of the charter-party agreement, the invoices, bills of lading and all other necessary books & papers which are to be forwarded to you from Fort S. George & we shall transmit the like to Bombay for the General Laurence wh. the President & Council of that Presidency will communicate to you if there shall happen to be occasion for it.

10. Although the charter-parties of the said ships will fully apprise you of the terms & conditions on which they are taken up, and to which you are to give all due attention, yet it is necessary to point out some particulars in this place for your information which are—That the Company are to pay £7. 10^s 0 per ton freight for the goods carried out in the ships Norfolk & Chesterfield and £8 per ton for those by the General Laurence, also £10 ahead for each passenger with 11s. a day each for their diet from the time of their going on board to the ship's departure from the Hope. That if the said ships shall

be detained at their consigned ports for the delivery of their cargoes more than thirty days in the whole the Company are to pay demorage after the rate of 8d. per ton a day, on the tonnage of goods & the tonnage allowed for passengers sent aboard on the Company's account for the time of such detention above the said thirty days. That the owners are to make good to the Company at their consigned ports all short deliveries and damages that shall appear upon the goods & merchandize laden on them in the accustomed manner being the prime cost with an advance thereon of 30 per cent. That after the said ship's arrival at their consigned ports in India & having delivered the Company's effects & landed the passengers and soldiers, they are to be at the entire disposal of the owners upon this proviso nevertheless (which you are to see strictly observed if disposed of in Bengal) that they shall not upon any account or pretence whatsoever return to England again nor be sold to the French or any other European Nation excepting the English, nor to any of the Country powers without the license or permission of the Company's Governor & Council, Chief & Council or residents at such place or places where the said ships shall be sold, and that at whatever settlements they shall happen to be disposed of you or they are to take sufficient security of the person or persons who purchase them that they submit to and abide by these conditions.

11. The amount of the freight to be paid to the owners of each ship will depend upon the quantity of goods laden on the Company's account & the number of Charter-party passengers actually on board; the rate of demorage is likewise to be ascertained by the same means; both which we shall inform you of before the said ships' departure. When the said freight is ascertained two-thirds thereof is to be paid by us here and the remainder on the final delivery of the Company's effects & charter-party passengers at their consigned ports in India reckoning the Fort St. George Pagoda at 8s. the Bengal current rupee at 2s-4d and the Bombay rupee at 2s-6d. each, at wh. rates the damage & short deliveries are also to be adjusted & paid in India by the several commanders.

12. The passage money for soldiers & charter-party passengers will be paid in England so that there will remain nothing more to be paid in India than one-third of the freight and what demorage may be incurred by any detention over and above 30 days as before mentioned.

13. But for better information we shall send you by the ships Norfolk & Chesterfield stated accounts of what the owners have received and what remains due to them to be paid in India.

14. Although we do not suppose either of the said two coast & bay ships will proceed from your presidency to Bombay to finish their voyages, yet in case such an event should unavoidably happen you are to forward the necessary books, papers & accounts thither for the final adjustment of their accounts.

15. We have given the sums of £2000 each to the crews of the Calcutta, Hardwicke & Duke of Dorset as a reward for their gallant behaviour in the action with the Dutch in Bengal River, in Nov. 1759, also two months pay to the respective crews of the Royal George & Oxford for the share they had in that service, wh. said rewards after a deduction of the gratuities you gave them on this account have been divided among the several crews in proportion to their respective wages, and are not only in full consideration for their said services but for every other during their respective voyages.

16. The service done us by the crews of the said ships was certainly of such importance to the Company, that in this instance we cannot blame you for deviating from the recommendations in our general letter of the 23rd March 1759, in rewarding on the spot some of the petty officers with 50 rupees & the seamen with 40 rupees each ; but as nothing but very extraordinary services can warrant such a deviation we shall depend upon your assurances of paying a due regard to our said recommendation in future, especially as we are never backward in gratifying our people when they behave well.

17. Whenever you make captures of the enemy's vessels and cargoes you should always transmit us the papers & vouchers sufficient to prove they are legal prizes for want of such proofs we cannot obtain the condemnation of the French Snow taken by the Mermaid's crew; you must therefore by the first opportunity furnish us with all the necessary papers and let them be properly authenticated.

18. We observe no less a sum than 57750 rupees is paid the owners of the Fort William for her freight detention at the Negrais, being after the rate of 2500 rupees a month. The necessity of loading us with such a heavy expense at so insignificant a settlement is by no means clear to us, especially when our injunctions for some time past have been either to withdraw or reduce the annual charges to a very small sum by way only of keeping possession.

Indly of Goods from Europe or from one part of India to another

19. Having given you in our letter of the 31st of Dec. a general account of our export this season we are now to make this general observation that we have complied with your Merchantile[sic], Naval and Military indents as far as the tonnage & the situation of public Affairs will admit of.

20. We are in hopes Capt. Brohier's indent for many particulars for the use of your new Citadel will be nearly complied with by the ships of this season. Should we be disappointed therein it will be entirely occasioned by the contractors for guns in particular failing on their parts.

21. Your naval indent cannot be fully complied with for want of room, but considering the large supplies sent last year we have reason to think those now sent will be sufficient for the service of the ensuing season.

22. The articles of lead, iron & coals are greatly short of your demands, for the same reason the want of room which has prevented our complying

with other as material particulars, you must therefore until we shall be able more fully to supply you with lead & iron principally to reserve those articles for use, & not put them up for sale, unless you are certain any part can with convenience be spared.

23. The Pitch sent this season being the sort that is used in his Majesty's Navy preferable to any other, you are to inform us whether it answers better than what has been usually sent, that we may be guided in our future provision of this article.

24. The trunnions of the light iron 12-pounder guns noticed in Capt. Brohier's letter of the 6th Feb. 1760 as being too small were made of the exact size of the 12-pounder Brass Field pieces as some time since desired, however, some few since the receipt of the said letter have been contracted for to be made one inch more in the diameter of the trunnion.

25. As the making of good gunpowder in India is an object of great importance our enquiries of the most skilful persons in England have been frequent in order if possible to give you such instructions as might put you in the way of manufacturing it in a proper manner, but as we have not been able to furnish the persons with the necessary informations with respect to the nature and proportions of the ingredients you make use of and the method of your process, you must therefore attentively consider & reply by the first conveyances to the following observations and directions when very possibly we may be able to put you in a method to make powder at your settlement equally good with that in Europe.

26. You are to give us a full & circumstantial account of the several ingredients made use of, their proportions & the whole process of making powder from the beginning to its completion.

27. Much depends upon the charcoal made use of, the wood may be burnt too much or too little, it may be too old, or the wood improper, in any of these instances the powder cannot be good. The trees with us from which the best Charcoal is made, are the hazel willow and alder but beyond the age of 6 years they are not fit for this use. It is suggested that your bendy called here the tulip tree, is very proper for this purpose. We would have you send us in small parcels the several woods you burn for Charcoal, distinguishing the age of each. Send us also the charcoal made from those different woods with your opinion which are esteemed the best.

28. Powder made with damp salt-petre the persons we have consulted affirm will ever be damp, & no act or care can prevent it, this possibly may not have been attended to at your settlement.

29. They further inform us that powder must be in the mill six hours & constantly moved from the sides to the centre with a copper shovel or the ingredients can never be well mixed.

30. Besides the beforementioned charcoal samples you must send us about 1/2[.....] weight of salt-petre & the same quantity of brimstone, both

refined as you use them in making powder; you must send us also half a barrel of the powder made at your settlement, all which several samples of ingredients & powder we would have you send by two conveyances for fear of a disappointment.

31. In your letter of the 31st December 1758, you informed us you should send by the latter ships a few specimens of the powder made at your settlement & of the materials of which it was made and accordingly transmitted an invoice of those articles said to be laden on the Duke of Dorset but upon the strictest enquiry we cannot find they were sent by that or any other ship. Had they been received we should have been able to have sent you some instructions by these conveyances.

32. The several articles desired by a separate indent for the use of the powder works have not been provided as every thing which was thought necessary for those works was sent last season with the powder makers, millstones only excepted which are now shipped on the Fox, Warren, Earl of Holderness and Plassey.

33. We send you by the ships Warren, Earl of Holderness & Plassey three cases of cuttings of Sallow, willow and alder in each of the said ships & an additional box of willows in the Warren which we recommend to you to plant & cultivate as we hope in time you may raise trees for the making of proper charcoal to be used in your manufacturing gunpowder. We also send you a small box of seeds in each of the said ships that you may raise plants from them also.

34. The necessary directions have been given to the several Captains to take care of the said plants & seeds in their passage. And the proper instructions for planting, sowing & managing them on their arrival come a number in the several packets by the said ships.

35. You are to inform us of your proceedings herein, particularly how they thrive & which are likely to best answer the purpose, also which of the methods we have packed them up in proves best for our future guidance when we may send you any more.

36. We flatter ourselves if you give a due attention to see that the rupees coined in your mint are carefully & strictly kept up to the proper standard in weight & fineness they will pass currently notwithstanding your apprehensions of the Seats throwing obstacles in the way to depreciate their value on account as you intimate of its interfering with their interest.¹ As this is an object we have long had our eye upon, we shall depend upon your using every means in your power to promote a free & extensive circulation of the money coined at Fort William as otherways the grant for this privilege will be of but little use, and your present influence we doubt not will effect it.

37. By the Duke of Dorset we received the 4 gold Mohurs and 40 Sicca rupees coined in your Mint as also the paper of observations referred to. We have directed our accountant to get those coins assayed at the Tower,

an account whereof together with the proper remarks signed by our said accountant you will receive by these conveyances. You will receive also two pairs of assay balances as desired which being made in the most accurate manner will be of good use in the mint.

38. Mr. Anselm Beaumont we have good reason to believe understands the nature & methods of coinage so well that he may be of good service to us in this branch & we accordingly recommend him to be appointed Mint Master.

IIIrdly of Investments

39. In the lists of Investment for the goods to be provided in Bengal the ensuing season now transmitted to you we have been so particular in our directions with respect to the quantities and qualities of the several sortments to be provided and in our observations upon the goods received from your presidency last year that we have only in this place to recommend the same to your most careful attention & observance, depending upon your using all practicable methods to conduct & carry on this important branch of business to all possible advantage the situation of affairs will admit of.

40. In our said list of Investment salt-petre is directed as usual to be provided agreeable to our general letter; as we have already in our letter of the 31st of Dec. given such general directions with respect to the provision of this article as well for our other presidencies as the ship to be returned directly from Bengal, it is unnecessary to say any thing further than to refer you to those directions.

IVthly of the Trade of India, Transactions relative to the European Powers, Country Government, etc.

41. Public affairs are in much the same situation as noticed in our letter of the 31st of December and great preparations are making on all sides for opening the next Campaign with vigour.

42. The French being in no condition to make head against any of our Squadrons at sea have pursued a plan for distressing our Trade in general by sending out their Frigates of War, as cruisers, & giving commissions to a number of privateers. They have succeeded too well in taking a great number of British ships, & the more so, on account of the long continuance of the westerly winds which prevented his Majesty's ships getting out to sea. However, at last having been favoured with an easterly wind, they have scoured the Channel & taken several of the enemy's frigates and many privateers, in particular his Majesty's ship the Minerva of 32 guns and 220 men after a most gallant action took & brought into Spithead the Warwick man of war of 34 guns, but pierced for 60 having on board 295 men, 74 of which are a detachment of King's Troops. She sailed from Rochfort the 20th of Jan. and was bound to the Isle of France & Bourbon laden with provision[s], ammunition & stores. The Warwick was taken by the enemy in the West

Indies at the commencement of the present war. This is a capture of great importance as the French must certainly be in great want of supplies, and in particular of masts of which we are informed the Warwick had several for capital ships on board.

43. Our late President & Council in consequence of advices from Madras that General Lally had destroyed the houses at Fort. S. David, & sold the materials at outcry, took the same resolution of razing to the ground all buildings at Chandernagore, but we no where find that the materials were sold or received for our account; thus you our Governor & Council will examine into, and see that our property has been duly and regularly accounted for.

44. Whenever the Nabob calls for assistance, you are undoubtedly by treaty, & consistent indeed with good policy, obliged to support him, but your own prudence will always suggest that great economy should be exercised in these expeditions. We are far from expecting any lucrative advantage at the expense of the Nabob in such occasional aids; let us only be kept free from charge. Our interests are now so cemented that these measures become acts of necessity and should the Nabob by a wanton and injudicious dissipation of his wealth be reduced to poverty, the same dismal consequences we may one day feel as we now so heavily experience with Mahmud Ally Cawn^a, the Nabob of Arcot. This doctrine must be strongly inculcated to our officers & soldiers who have hitherto been taught & practised very different lessons. The Nabob ought not to be charged a single rupee more for the expense of our troops than we pay ourselves; it should be understood & considered as a common cause. It certainly is so, & our military as much in their duty as if they were defending the Fort of Calcutta. Frequent largesses from the Nabob to individuals should be discouraged, or our well-meaning & generous support may be his ruin; & these our sentiments he should be made acquainted with. We do not mean to throw blame upon our military in these matters; on the contrary, we with pleasure confess that their extraordinary bravery & noble actions merit our highest praise, and will always entitle them to our favour; nor do our intentions reach to a total restriction of all bounties; there may occasions offer when you with the Nabob, may think it prudent & necessary. Upon the whole you see our views are to restore such order, economy & good management as are suitable to a settled & well regulated Government; for the methods & practice, we allude to could only be tolerated in a revolution, when all was chaos & confusion.

45. It is our present satisfaction that you our Governor & the Council, will rectify these & all other abuses which have crept into almost every branch of our affairs, for we indeed have had a large field for complaints. We place an unreserved confidence in your honour & zeal to serve us, and doubt not to find a very happy renovation in our settlement of Bengal.

46. The conduct of our late servants towards the Dutch we very highly applaud. The Nabob called publicly for our assistance to oppose those he deemed his enemies, yet no acts of hostility were exercised against the Dutch

nor any injury done them, but it's self evident from many strong & corroborating circumstances, that their plan was no less than our total extirpation. Happy indeed that the bravery & good conduct of our people surmounted such imminent danger, & by glorious & complete victories preserved our settlements. The lenity shown the Dutch after such notorious acts of violence we commend: kindnesses that we have no reason to believe our servants would have experienced had the Dutch been victors. The restitution for damages we hope has been extensively considered or else we may in the end be great sufferers, for exclusive of what we are obliged to give the officers & sailors, the owners demands for their several ships are very heavy. The delivery of the ships & cargoes before ample satisfaction was made seems rather imprudent & unguarded for with such chicanery [chicaning] people it was certainly as proper & necessary caution to hold every thing until their agreements had been entirely fulfilled; and as this treaty is for the mutual safety of yourselves and the Nabob, do not at any time suffer it to be in the least infringed.

47. We have received the Nabob's & Jugget Seat's letters & presents. Our answer to the Nabob comes a number in this packet. Acquaint Jugget Seat we receive his present as a proof of his good inclinations & sincere attachment to our interest, but as to any return, he has already received an ample recompense, through the extraordinary generosity of our late servants, his visit with the Nabob's having cost us £12,000, but we shall add no more upon this head as we hope we have now better economists.

48. We were in hopes that our people & effects might have been easily and quietly withdrawn from the Negrais. It is therefore with the utmost concern we received the information of the unhappy fate of Mr. Southby & the other poor people who were cruelly massacred there by the Burmars [Burmese].³ If ever it shall be in your power to procure satisfaction for this inhuman act, we would have you make such use of it as may deter the Burmars from such cruelties in future. We have taken the like notice of this affair to the Fort S. George Presidency.

49. Although we had a due sense of the gallant behaviour of our troops which took Massulipatam by storm, under the Command of Colonel Forde, yet we cannot admit of the principle you lay down, that no part of the plunder could be claimed for the Company except the Artillery & Military stores. We do presume that by military custom the captors may be entitled to some share, but neither in equity or agreeable to His late Majesty's grant, can they or ought they to expect the whole in such cases, & some part at least besides the said artillery & military stores should have been reserved for the Company towards an indemnification for their expenses on this occasion, & your so readily giving up all the grain taken in the place to the captors cannot be approved of, especially as Colonel Forde thought proper to reserve it until he received your orders wh. implied there was not an absolute necessity for such a distribution. We do not intend by these observations to reflect upon our military or to give any discouragements in their way. Our meaning is, that they should have all fitting encouragements, but at the same time the interest

of the Company is to have its due weight, and the rewards for military merit must have respect to both.

50. You say if in future we expect the Company should partake of any plunder or captures where His Majesty's ships or forces are concerned, proper authority from the King should be obtained by us for demanding the same, as you cannot without such authority claim or oblige the captors to give up any part, as you do not conceive the patents hitherto obtained sufficient for that purpose. In answer thereto we are to acquaint you that the patents mentioned were obtained with great trouble and were well considered, and as they were intended so they certainly operate as well with respect to the King's Forces as our own. Your doubt, therefore, seems to be more a matter of speculation than any thing else, & if any of his Majesty's officers should start any difficulties on this point on future occasions, you are to communicate the contents of the said letters patent to them, but if even that should not induce their compliance, you are to make the necessary remonstrances to them and inform us of your whole proceedings that we may apply for redress to His Majesty.

51. In your Select Committee's letter of the 29th Dec. 1759 reasons are given for protecting Roy Dulluh at Calcutta against the resentment of the present Nabob, & supporting Ramnarrain, in the Government of the Province of Bihar, though his being there is greatly against the Nabob's inclination. These are very dangerous measures, & such as ought not to be pursued but upon a certain conviction of their being founded on solid & good principle. Whether they were so or not you must have been informed by our late President & Council, & we shall depend upon your address, utmost circumspection & care to prevent their operating in any manner to our disadvantage.

52. We approve of your sending to us the French prisoners account in the manner [in?] which we received it by the Calcutta, but we observe that the particular charges from December 1758 to May 1759 are wholly omitted in that account.

53. As this matter may become necessary to found a claim upon, this account cannot be kept too minutely. We therefore direct you by the first opportunity to supply the above omission and you will take care to transmit these accounts to us from time to time, continued in the most exact method, that we may not be constrained to refer to you for any explanation thereof.

54. Colonel Clive's long illness preventing our having any conversation with him before the dispatch of these ships upon the subject of the Nabob's grant to him of the annual rent^d of those lands now in our possession, which was before paid to the Nabob as mentioned in 136th paragraph of your letter of the 29th December 1759, we must therefore defer giving you our sentiments thereon to another opportunity.

Vthly of Fortification, Buildings & Revenues

55. In our letter of the 31st December last, we intimated our uneasiness at the excessive expense of our fortifications & directed you to put a stop to the

outworks until our further orders. We have since reflected very seriously upon this subject & it plainly appears our late President and Council set out upon a plan very different to our intentions, and the tenour of our instructions & directions for fortifying Fort William, which had been transmitted from time to time, and on which a considerable progress was made before we could receive advice thereof. When we reflect further upon what we have undoubted information of, that if the works should be completed upon Capt. Brohier's extensive plan they will not cost so little as £ 600,000, and probably a great deal more, besides the amazing expense of maintaining a garrison of 2500 Europeans & 3000 sepoys, which that gentleman calculates will be necessary to defend them (though it is true he makes some abatement with respect to the present force of the French in India). Considering all these circumstances we cannot avoid expressing our great uneasiness upon observing so great a share of our capital in a great measure unnecessarily sunk; for as we are very sensibly assured, and indeed it is self-evident that the impropriety of these projected extensive works is demonstrable from these considerations, they answer no end unless a garrison is kept up sufficient for their defence, & if we are at the expense of such a garrison they become useless in another sense; for with such a force our troops might always take the field & never be under a necessity of retiring to them, let the enemy be either Europeans or Country troops. Upon the whole we are satisfied a contracted plan agreeable to our intimations and directions from time to time, would have fully answered all purposes, and saved an infinite expense. This, our late President & Council seem to be fully sensible of, though late, as appears by the 77th & 78th paragraphs of the general letter of the 29th Dec. 1759, and accordingly ordered Mr. Brohier to desist from carrying on the outworks for the present. Presuming therefore a stop has been put thereto until you receive our further orders, you are to take the state of our fortifications under your most serious consideration, & make no additions either of outworks or any others, than shall be made [*sic*] appear to you to be absolutely necessary, and with as little expense as is possible, & since Mr. Brohier has been so greatly out in his estimates, you are to suffer no works to be set about without being as fully satisfied (as circumstances will admit) of the probable expense they will amount to: acting herein in such manner as you think will send best to answer the purpose of safety to our settlement, as well as frugality, & checking the current of the great drain out of our Estate, which the works have hitherto occasioned. With respect to Mr. Brohier, as he never had any independent powers from us, nor is it necessary he should, he is always to act under your direction and control. If this had been carefully attended to by our late President & Council we should not have occasion to make these animadversions.

56. Our reasons & motives for the raising our *customs* at Calcutta have been so fully explained in our letter of the 3rd March 1758, that we shall not enlarge here. You gentlemen will retrospect our directions with the deviations that have been made by our late President & Council, and shall rest the subject upon your determinations.

57. A judicious management & improvement of our new acquired lands we must strongly recommend to your most serious consideration; it's a very extensive object; great circumspection, vigilance & assiduity & integrity must be exercised, or we may suffer very heavily either through neglect or misconduct. Peruse our sentiments upon this subject in our letter of the 1st of April 1760 & compare them with the rules & regulations laid down before our said letter reached Bengal: neither can be in any degree perfect; they may serve as outlines to a plan which observation & experience may amend or alter for our benefit. We therefore now revoke all restrictions and if you are perfectly satisfied that no inconvenience can arise from our servants farming any part, we shall not object to it, but then assign your reasons for our observation. The division of those lands into single lots, and selling them at public auction in presence of the Governor & Council are commendable & judicious steps; could they hereafter be farmed out in smaller lots, our revenues, we apprehend would be greatly increased; and here we reason from experience. Until the year 1752 our cocoanut Parts [plants] at Bombay were farmed in such large lots as very few had abilities to reach, & these few became monopolizers to our great detriment. The then collector with the approbation of our Governor and Council divided them into very small districts & this farm that upon a medium let for rupees 11,000 per annum went for rupees 24,000 & has been increasing from that period. One method practised at that presidency we must recommend to your consideration. They article in their lease with the farmer to give him upon the expiration of his farm a stipulated share of the improvements he may make by his application & industry, and this encouragement we have observed has produced us considerable benefit.

58. Great care must be taken that the farmers do not injure or oppress the inhabitants; the people should be assembled in every purgunnah, the terms and conditions published & they be publicly told where they are to apply for redress of all grievances, and by kind and humane Government, numbers may be encouraged to fix their residence in these territories & in time all our waste lands may be occupied & greatly improved. Our late President & Council we must acknowledge were commendably assiduous in laying down many good rules for the just & equitable management of this most important branch; still they do not come up to our intentions. The old & common revenues must continue with the collector, but he is to have no share in the direction of the new lands, not even be of the Committee. The reasons for this restraint must be obvious, and indeed if the collector attends properly to his duty he will be sufficiently employed in his own department. Appointing a committee for the management of these new lands, and to hear & redress all grievances falls in with our own sentiments, but in this place we shall make a material amendment; for affairs of this immense consequence must ever be superintended by the Governor. We therefore direct that our president for the time being be always at the head of this committee, in all essential business he must give his attendance in matters of a trifling nature it is not required; however, every thing must be laid before him, and he should sign approved, for we expect a regular register

of all transactions, similar to your consultations, and let all debates, observations and remarks be entered, as they may sometimes open & explain what we at this distance may not always comprehend, & if any member should differ from the Majority & thinks it of consequence to us that his sentiments should be known, he is to enter his reasons upon these registers with his name annexed.

59. The vast extension of our affairs at Bengal we are satisfied should exempt our Governor from any additional weight of business where we can avoid it. We are equally sensible that his emoluments keep pace in no proportion to his increased fatigue & intense application. Therefore as a compensation and to excite him to exert his most zealous endeavours to serve us, we order & direct that our President Mr. Vansittart or our President for the time being be allowed a consulage or commission of 2½ per cent to be deducted from the net annual revenue of these our acquired territories, to be paid him at the close of every year. We know of no unfair perquisites at Calcutta, but if any have crept in we expect they are all instantly abolished, or we shall resent it in the highest degree. We deem all those perquisites unwarrantable & unfair that have not our authority or approbation.

60. We find by your consultations that there are several allowances for house-rent & some houses purchased besides those you have advised us of in your letters. The involving us at this time in so great an expense can only be warranted by the absolute necessity of it, & in that case we hope that both your contracts & allowances have been made upon a proper estimate; yet we cannot see such charges continually increasing on us without reminding you in the most serious manner of the instructions we have repeatedly given for your observing as strict an economy as is consistent with the nature of our Affairs.

Vithly & VIIthly of Covenant & Military Servants & Accounts

61. You were acquainted in our letter of the 21st January last, transcripts whereof you will receive by all these conveyances with the names of the Council we had appointed to manage our affairs in Bengal provisionally until our further pleasure was signified to you. We are now to inform you that we do hereby appoint & confirm the said several persons to be the Council at our Presidency of Fort William, subject to the enquiry you are therein directed to make, viz.

Henry Vansittart Esqr. (President and Govr.)

Peter Amyatt Esqr.

Second in Council & in case of the death or absence of M. Vansittart to succeed to the Government,

Mr. William Ellis

Third

Mr. Stanlake Batson

Fourth

Mr. William Billers

Fifth

Mr. Harry Smyth	Sixth
Mr. Harry Smyth	Seventh
Mr. Samuel Waller	Eighth
Mr. Culling Smith	Ninth

62. When any vacancies happen in the said Council by the death, coming away or otherwise of any of the beforementioned members such vacancies are to be filled up by the next persons in standing upon the list of covenant Servants until our further pleasure is signified to you provided there are no reasonable objections to their capacities, characters or circumstances.

63. Whenever you deliberate on military affairs or any matters relative thereto, Colonel Coote (if on the spot) is constantly to be at the Council as an additional member & have a voice at the Board, as is also Major John Carnac or the Major of our forces for the time being (if on the spot). Colonel Coote's seat therein is to be next below the President and the Major's next to Mr. Amyatt or the second in Council for the time being.

64. We also hereby order & direct that your Select Committee be composed of the following persons, viz.

Henry Vansittart Esqr. (President)

Colonel Eyre Coote	When military affairs only are under deliberation, if on the spot.
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Peter Amyatt Esqr.

Major John Carnac	When military affairs only are under deliberation, if on the spot.
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Mr. William Ellis

and whenever by death or otherwise the said Committee is reduced under the number of five, the vacancies are to be filled up by the remaining members of the said Committee with such person or persons as they shall think fit.

65. We also further direct, that whensoever Fort William shall have the misfortune of being attacked by any enemy, the powers of the Governor & Council so far as respects its defence are then to be suspended & the sole authority is to devolve on the following named persons, in which it is to exist for so long as the attack or danger continues & no longer, agreeable to our directions on this head in our general letter of the 23rd March 1759 viz.

Henry Vansittart Esqr.	or the Govr. for the time being.
Colonel Eyre Coote	if on the spot, or the Commander in Chief for the time being.

Peter Amyatt Esqr.

Major John Carnac	or the Company's Major for the time being, if on the spot.
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The Principal Engineer	for the time being, if on the spot.
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and whenever such Government shall exist & the number of its members be any ways reduced below the said establishment of five the Vacancies

are to be filled up by the remaining members, with such person or persons as they shall think fit.

66. Although in the foregoing directions Colonel Coote is to be of Council only on Military Affairs, yet we do further order, that if any of the matters mentioned on the 134th paragraph of our general letter of the 23rd of March 1759 come under examination & consideration, he is then also to have a seat & a voice at the Board.

67. In case General Lawrence, who is as you will observe in a following part of this letter appointed Commander in Chief of all our forces in India, shall at any time be in Bengal, he is to have a seat in Council & at your Committee in which notwithstanding the former directions he is to have the precedence of Col. Coote in the rank and manner hereafter mentioned.

68. In our letter of the 31st of December we gave you the names of the persons appointed to be the Governor & Council at our Presidency of Fort S. George. We are now for your further information to acquaint you that the Select Committee at that place is composed of the following persons, viz.

George Pigott Esqr.	President & Govr.
Robert Palk Esqr.	
Mr. Charles Bouchier	

The person who Commands in Chief the Company's own Forces under the President & Council when military affairs only are under deliberation.

Mr. John Call.

69. General Lawrence is to have a seat in Council and the Committee at that Presidency in like manner as noticed with respect to Bengal in case of his proceeding to you.

70. Of the four young gentlemen you were advised in our letter of the 31st of Dec. to be appointed writers on the Bengal Establishment two of them, viz. Mr. William Majendie and Mr. Nicolas Grueber took their passage on the Hawke, George Vansittart now proceeds in the Fox, and Samuel Bartholomew Case in the Warren.

71. Mr. William Shewen who had leave from the President & Council to come to Europe for the recovery of his health, being perfectly well, returns to his station as a writer in the Warren. As this was a case of necessity we do agree that he take rank in the same manner as if he had not come to England, his absence not being [*sic*] to affect his standing in the service.

72. Mr. Ralph Leycester who had been under the like circumstance of bad health to come to England, not being as yet in a condition to return to his station we have dispensed with his proceeding until the next season

and agreed also that his absence is not to affect his standing in the service but that he take rank in the same manner as if he had not come to England which will be among the junior merchants.

73. Mr. Thomas Amphlett a writer upon the Fort S. George establishment being by leave from the President & Council there now at your Presidency and as we are informed usefully employed under our Engineer, we therefore direct that he be fixed as a covenant servant upon the Fort William Establishment & take rank according to his standing at Fort S. George, he arriving there on the 5th July 1756.

74. You were acquainted in our letter of the 1st of April 1760 that it had not been in our power to examine so minutely into the charge against Mr. Paul Richd. Pearkes and his defence with respect to his provision of Salt-petre during his being chief of Patna as we intended to do on our having more leisure. We are now to inform you that having since made such enquiry we are satisfied the President & Council's determination upon the conduct of Mr. Pearkes is well founded. It appearing he had imposed two merchants upon them as having made a contract for Salt-petre who did not exist, whilst himself was covertly the contractor, that he purchased the petre at Rs. 3 Ans. 4 per Maund wh. he invoiced at Rs 5 ans. 2 per maund to the Company & that he unjustly converted our carconnahs to his own use & profit rendering himself thereby guilty of a breach of the trust reposed in him we therefore not only approve of the President & Council's suspending Mr. Pearkes from a seat in Council, but we are now to add that it is our order he be forthwith dismissed from our Service & his name be accordingly struck out of the list of covenant servants. However, in consideration of his former services, we do agree that he may have liberty to continue in India under free merchant's covenant if he chooses so to do.

75. We must here remark that his unfaithful conduct was first discovered by Mr. Amyatt & the enquiry into it prosecuted upon President Clive's coming to the Chair, which we mention to the honour of those gentlemen. We further remark that Mr. Pearkes in his defence infers from his attornies & himself being paid for the Salt-petre on its being brought down to Fort William that President Drake & his Council must know it was on his account. This certainly has the appearance of great inattention at least if not a connivance at Mr. Pearkes's conduct that no suspicions should arise or discoveries be made at that time, and in particular it is very extraordinary that Mr. Becher & Mr. Boddam two of the then members of the Board who were Mr. Pearkes's said attornies, & who as such it is very natural to suppose must be apprized of his collusion did not make a discovery or at least give some intimations tending thereto. We have dwelt the longer on Mr. Pearkes's case to show how much we have suffered & may suffer by fraud on one hand & inattention on the other, and in order that you may be constantly on your guard to prevent and detect as much as lays in your power all fraudulent practices.

76. We have given permission to several persons this season to proceed to and reside in India as free merchants, in the sea-faring way & otherways as will appear by the accompanying lists,

77. We appointed Mr. More, one of our Chaplains at your presidency and we have repeated our orders that Mr. Butler should repair to Fort Marlborough for which place we originally appointed him Chaplain but to our great surprise we find an exchange has been made, our orders broke, and Mr. More gratified upon the ridiculous pretence that he can live cheaper at Bencoolen when the contrary is notorious. He and all others in his situation are acquainted in England with their several allowances & if they do not reach their expectations they must find their way home again. But with respect to Mr. More we are not unacquainted with the true motives, that influenced him to the removal, this behaviour in disobedience to our directions with other reasons that might be as signed have induced us to dismiss Mr. More from our Service and give orders to the President & Council of Fort Marlborough to send him home by the way of China or any other conveyance that may offer. If our orders are to be treated in this manner there will soon be an end to all subordination & good Government. Our late Governor & Council took too many liberties of this kind and they ought not to have suffered or connived at this instance in particular which as it cannot but be displeasing to us we hope from what has been said you will not tread in the like steps.

78. With respect to Mr. Butler you may imagine this transaction cannot but make an impression on us not very favourable and so we would have you inform him.

79. As there will be a vacancy of the Chaplainship at Fort Marlborough by the dismissal of Mr. More it is to filled up either by Mr. Butler according to our original orders or by a gentleman we shall send out for that purpose on one of the latter coast & bay ships who is to take his passage for Fort Marlborough on the first proper conveyance. However as Mr. Butler has been some considerable time in Bengal we are for that reason inclined to continue him one of your Chaplains if you choose it that [sic] if he proceeds to Fort Marlborough then the said gentleman is to be one of our Chaplains at Fort William upon the same terms and conditions and not otherways as directed in our letter of the 23rd of January 1759, upon our appointing Mr. More and Mr. Cape our Chaplains.

80. Another instance of our late President & Council's disregard of us was the sending to Fort S. George for Mr. Tyso Saul Hancock to be a surgeon at Cossimbuzar upon the Bengal establishment. We know nothing more of Mr. Hancock's abilities there from what has been mentioned in their letter of 24th Dec. 1759 & therefore object to his appointment to that station only as there certainly must be some deserving persons on the spot superseded though backed by our recommendations. The allowance settled upon him of 3000 D[asmasa] Rupees a year was extravagant. We therefore

hereby set it aside and order that the usual allowance to surgeons at your subordinate settlements be paid him and no more.

81. Mr. Wotton Braham who has served many years with reputation as our surgeon at Fort Marlborough being desirous of residing in Bengal, we do therefore direct that he do succeed to one of the first vacancies of principal surgeon that shall happen by the death, coming away or other ways of Mr. William Fullerton or the successor of Mr. George Gray or after any other person who shall be one of the two principal surgeons at the time of his the said Mr. Braham's arrival at Fort William our meaning being that neither of the persons who shall be at that time our principal surgeons is to be displaced or superceded on his account even though one of them should be the before-mentioned Mr. Hancock, if you approve of him.

82. We cannot pass over the pension allowed to Mrs. Mapletoft without a remark 100 rupees a month is a lavish allowance & contrary to all precedent, the rank of her husband considered. Still we shall permit its continuance during her widowhood; as we observe she has a very large family, but this must not be your future rule as we certainly shall not suffer it in any other instance.

83. Since it has been repeatedly & strenuously requested that our allowance of 4000 R. per annum be continued to the Export Warehouse Keeper we acquiesce, but then we shall always expect that the persons appointed to this post are the most capable and deserving.

84. As we shall continue to supply you with covenant servants from hence annually we do not therefore think proper to appoint Mr. John Hackett and Mr. John Verelst as such mentioned in your general letters of the 29th Dec. 1739 & 3rd March 1760.

85. We think it very extraordinary that no one of our own servants should be employed to bring up the General Books of your Presidency and that Mr. William Magee a free merchant should be appointed to this service at the extraordinary allowance of 2,500 Arcot Rupees a year. We apprehend before this reaches you the undertaking is completed if not Mr. Magee is to be continued no longer than the said Books are finished, and they are in future to be kept agreeable to the constant practice by one of our covenant servants.

86. We cannot too much commend the gallant behaviour of our covenant Servants who acted in a military capacity under the command of Colonel Forde in the late affair with the Dutch. We would have you let them know it had given us the highest satisfaction, the only alloy to which is the loss of that late very valuable young man Mr. Rider who unfortunately fell in the action.

87. You have been already advised that we could not send out any recruits for our own military this season as the accommodating the King's

Troops with a passage leaves no room in the Company's shipping for our own except however some cadets whose names & ranks are mentioned in our letter of the 31st of December last.

88. In addition to those cadets we have since appointed the following named persons who are also to be preferred in turn according to their behaviour, viz. Benjamin Spooner, George Thomson and John Bowen.

89. Mr. Lauchlin Mc Lean who had served the Company in a military capacity at our presidencies of Fort S. George and Fort William upwards of eight years having applied to us to be again employed and finding by certificates as well from your presidency as others separately from Mr. Pigot, Mr. Clive and General Lawrence that he has behaved to satisfaction during the whole time of his being in the Service, and it appearing further that he resigned his commission of Lieutenant at your presidency on account only of his wounds and bad state of health of which he is now recovered, we have thought proper to restore him again to our service on the Bengal Establishment on which he is to be Senior First Lieutenant on his arrival. He is also to succeed to the Command of the first vacant Company that shall happen after his arrival next after any person is provided for who has been already recommended by us if any such there is. He proceeds to his station on [....].

90. We find the said Mr. Mclean applied to the President and Council for a furlough to come to England for the recovery of his Health and although it could not consistently with the method of our service be complied with, yet if a favour of this kind could have been granted, it was certainly due to Mr. Mclean, but as we do not allow of such a measure we recommend it to you in all similar compassionate cases to inform us very particularly of the merits and services of any persons who in like manner desire to come to England, that we may return them to their stations if we find them deserving.

91. In order to prevent our being put to the Expense of supernumerary officers in our troops which we have had too much reason to complain of we do direct, that no officer be appointed until there is a vacancy; and that we may know how you comply with this direction, you are to give us a very particular account from time to time in your letters of every appointment or promotion in our military service, also how and in what manner vacancies happen to make room for such appointment or promotion.

92. We think it a very happy circumstance that Stringer Lawrence Esqr. has offered to take upon him again the command of the Company's forces in the East Indies. That he may be of as much use in this station as possible his Majesty has been pleased upon our application as well as from a gracious sense of his merit to grant him a Brevet to be a Major General in the East Indies only, under which commission he will also have the command of all the King's forces as the superior officer to all now in India.

93. General Lawrence is appointed by our commission Commander-in-Chief (as beforementioned) of all our military forces in the East Indies under our respective presidencies, that is to say our presidency of Fort S. George and the several settlements and Places subordinate thereto whenever he shall be present and reside in any part of the said presidency subject however to the orders & directions of the Governor & Council there, he is in the same manner to command our forces at your presidency, Bombay & Fort Marlborough, if our service shall ever require it and his health will permit.

94. Although as is beforementioned General Lawrence may by virtue of our commission act at any of our presidencies, yet as the principal scene of action has been & is likely to continue on the coast of Choromandel we apprehend his residence will be generally, if not altogether, at our presidency of Fort S. George.

95. In case General Lawrence shall ever come to your presidency he is in like manner as at Fort S. George to be an additional member to our General Council, also to the Select Committee and to that on wh. the Government is to devolve in case Fort William shall have the misfortune of being attacked and all others where he may be of use, his rank in the said Council and Committee is to be the next below the Governor, and he is to have a constant seat and voice therein in the same manner as any other member.

96. General Lawrence's salary or appointment as Commander of our forces and for all other services is to be £1,500 per annum certain to be paid by qua[r]terly or half-yearly payments as will be most agreeable to him, to commence upon his arrival at Fort S. George (when an annuity of £500 a year we now allow him ceases until his arrival in England again). The said £1,500 a year is to be paid in full consideration for all services, charges, allowances and expenses whatsoever in India except batta in the field, and travelling expenses on his proceeding from one presidency to another.

97. It remains only to recommend it to you in case of General Lawrence's coming to your presidency to let us have the best use of his abilities by settling matters and co-operating with each other with all possible harmony in every instance which comes under your consideration any way tending to the Company's Interest.

98. When Colonel Coote is in Bengal he is to have the command of the Company's as well the King's Forces, by virtue of the commission we gave him for that purpose, and agreeable to the directions in our letter of the 23rd of March 1759 except only at such time or times as General Lawrence may happen to be there if that shall ever happen to be the case.

99. Having in our former letters informed you of the appointment of John Carnac Esqr. to be Major of our forces in Bengal we are only to add that we now send his commission which is dated the 21st of Nov. 175 the time when we appointed him to that station.

100. As we make no doubt either Colonel Coote or Major Carnac or both are in Bengal, Colonel Caillaud is therefore to proceed forthwith to his station of Major to our Forces at Fort S. George agreeable to the appointment in our General Letter of the 23rd of March 1759, but if Colonel Coote is not in Bengal then we would have Colonel Caillaud take the Chief command of our forces in his room.

101. We have at the pressing instance of the wife of Lieutenant Fireworker Paul Nedrick advanced her the sum of £20 to relieve her necessities. You are therefore to require the repayment of that sum of the said Lieutenant and inform him that he is in future to remit by bill on us the money requisite for the support of his family. As we do not chuse on any account to make advances here to the relations or others of any of our servants abroad whatever their station may be on account of the endless trouble such a practice (besides the hazard) will certainly be attended with, we would have you discourage any attempt of this kind.

102. Upon Capt. Gaup's arrival in England he made an application to the same effect as he had done both at our presidency and at Fort S. George to be allowed off reckonings for non-effective men in his Company of Swiss, which was deemed & appeared to be such an unreasonable claim that we have given him for answer he was not by contract or any other ways entituled [*sic*] to any further allowance than what he acknowledges to have received for effective men only.

103. In Capt. Gaup's said application there was another claim however, which requires some notice. He alleged that there was due to him in Bengal the sum of A. Rs. 3,390 being for 15 rupees a day, from the 1st of December 1757 to the 14th July 1758 the time he says he was eldest captain or commandant of all the Detachments of the Company's Troops. We find Capt. Gaup did make an application to the President & Council for batta after the rate of 15 rupees a day from the 10th of September 1757 to the middle of July 1758 and was thereupon (very justly) informed the Company allow of no batta to their officers in garrison. Consequently he could expect none for the time he acted as Commandant at Fort William but that he would be allowed it for the time he was commandant at Sydabad, but as it does not appear to us if any or what batta was paid to him, or whether in fact he is entituled to any, we acquainted him if he would state his claim in particular on this Sydabad account. We would write to you to settle the same in an equitable manner, and inform us of the amount of what shall appear due (if any) which should then be paid to him or his representative in England. Although this was our determination in May last, no such account has been produced from that time to this. However, we would have you make the best enquiry you can into this last mentioned claim and report the facts as they appear to you together with your opinion thereupon in your next advices.

104. It is real satisfaction that we have no Swiss Companies subsisting, as the officers have been the occasion of much trouble both at home & abroad,

by their constant craving and unreasonable expectations and demands, which if complied with would have drawn on a train of ill consequences among our English troops.

105. You will herewith receive a letter from our Auditor containing some remarks on your last books & accounts, and as the same has been approved by us you are to attend to the observations therein made and consider what he recommends for the improving your books as our express directions for that purpose.

106. By the 23rd paragraph of our letter dated 8th March 1758 we directed that the surpluses arising from the nabob's restitution to the European sufferers should be reserved for the Company's use, and as the reasons we gave for such reservation were founded in the strictest equity we cannot but complain that you have not in express terms informed us of your intention of applying those surpluses accordingly.

107. Indeed by the 119th paragraph of your letter of the 29th Dec., 1759 you intimate that you shall take into future consideration the balance remaining after the allowance of 20 per cent to the Europeans for interest on their principal as established by the Commissioners. We therefore trust, that you have carried that balance to our credit. But here we must express our surprize that after we had remonstrated to you on the allowance of 15 per cent on the European sufferers' claims you should still order an advance of 5 per cent more, for we cannot suppose this 20 per cent to be any other than an augmentation of the 15 per cent first intended.

108. However, to obviate the least appearance of a too rigid parsimony on our part or of our balancing too strictly the real losses of the European and other sufferers, we shall acquiesce in the allowance of 20 per cent, which you have agreed to make for interest on their established claims, but you must observe that this allowance is to be for the whole of interest & not in addition to the 15 per cent stated in the estimate of their losses entered at the foot of the Commissioners letter in your consultations Oct. 1757 received per Elizabeth, but omitted in those afterwards received per Marlbro'.

109. Yet we must here remark that the reason assigned by you for making this allowance of 20 per cent appears to us of a very extraordinary nature for had you adverted or adhered to our instructions concerning the surpluses of the restitution money you would rather have offered some argument for the reasonableness of such an allowance than have made it merely because there would be a surplus remaining when the whole of the Nabob's stipulation was complied with.

110. This therefore is a circumstance that seems to make it necessary for us to renew our former orders on this subject and we hereby require that the surpluses arising from the nabob's treaty if restitution be deposited in your treasury, to be applied to such purposes as we may deem most conducive

to the protection & well being of our settlements in Bengal, & consequently to the future safety and advantage of all our servants on that establishment.

111. Under this restriction we shall say the less of your omission of the charges incurred on account of collecting the sums paid under the treaty, which no where appear, though they ought to have been carried to the several funds in their respective proportions as, indeed, we expected would have been done from the instructions mentioned in your consultations of the 15th May 1758, to be given to Mr. Scrafton⁵ for his specifying that Expense in order to your deb[i]ting the European sufferers for the proportion thereof, but as this has not been done we now consent that this charge should be taken from the surpluses by which means the several sufferers (the European at least) will receive the full amount of their losses with a more than adequate interest for the same.

112. The observation you make in the 120th paragraph of your letter that the balance of the account of the nabob's restitution to the Company will be considerably in our favour, can hold good in a general and gross calculation only, for the incidental charges we have been at in consequence of the capture, with a variety of connective losses which it is impossible to estimate, may easily be conceived to be greater than the computed balance in our favour. To enumerate these charges of losses would only be to repeat what we observe to you in our letter of the 8th March 1758 and which were the grounds of our order relative to the surpluses.

113. With respect to the applications that have been made to you on account of the bonds said to be lost at the capture, we do by no means approve of your paying or giving new bonds for any part of those demands until such time as our auditor's remarks on the debt at interest (sent you per Ajax Stormont & c.) shall have been complied with by stating all the accounts thereof in separate books. And when the same shall be completed we direct you to send us a report on each particular account whereon there shall appear a remaining balance by which means we shall be enabled to judge of the same and shall then give you further instructions herein.

114. You acquaint us that you had laid before the Commissioners of restitution our demand on that fund on account of Deepchund's deposit and we observe the extraordinary decision given by them in relation thereto. But we cannot conceive what necessity there could be for proof of the identity of the rupees lodged in our treasury for safe custody only. However as we find that what can be construed in our disfavour is likely to be so, and that the equity of the case will not suffice unless every point of law is fully on our side, we have ordered this case also to be laid before Council for their opinion and we shall acquaint you by the next conveyance how far we are resolved to prosecute our right to this claim.

115. It is with equal surprize & concern that we see such little attention paid to our orders in many material cases. That of the Doddaley's

Cotton now before us is a striking instance thereof. We know not which to complain of most : the readiness which has appeared in deciding this matter in our disfavour or the disregard since shown to our orders on this subject in our letter of the 3rd March 1758. In reply thereto you only refer us back to your former account of that transaction, though the orders we gave subsequent thereto was a manifest proof that the account referred to was not a all satisfactory to us.

116. We can by no means admit of the plea that due regard was had to this matter in estimating the Company's losses and restitution thereon for we have too much reason to fear that your estimate will, in the end, be found to be far short of our real losses.

117. But not to swell our letters with irksome remonstrances we must here inform you that we are not inclined to acquiesce in the decision you have thought proper to give in this affair. For having ordered the case to be laid before the Council for their opinion we are determined to abide by the same and when returned to us we shall give you directions accordingly.

118. Since the resettling at Fort William many necessary books and papers which used always to be transmitted to us have been omitted to be sent or at least not so regularly as they ought to be for instance.

119. No general Books are received for the year ending in April 1759 indeed this is in some measure accounted for in your letter of the 29th of Dec. the same year but as we apprehend you will be able in future to complete them in proper time they must without fail be sent us by the first annual conveyances.

120. Your cash & treasury accounts to Dec. 1759 have been omitted to be sent regularly & separately as usual, no general books have been received from Dacca or Cossimbuzar, since 1755, no account of charges general from the last named place since 1754, no consultations from Dacca since Dec. 1757 nor any general books from Luckipore since April 1756.

121. We received only one list of burials and christnings from your Chaplain in 1760 which ought to come in duplicate at least and brought up to the time of the last conveyance.

122. No lists of the salary pay and allowance to our covenant & military servants had been received since the year 1755 although so necessary & useful a paper for our information; neither do we receive as has been always accustomed lists of the inhabitants, free merchants and seafaring people; lists of ships importing and exporting are likewise omitted as are also the proceeding[s] of the quarter sessions for the year 1759. And muster rolls of our Military though these last are expressly said to be sent by the Royal George. And another very material list has been omitted which is that of the military officers with the dates of their respective commissions.

123. At Fort S. George and Bombay particular books are kept & transmitted annually to us in which are entered all grants, contracts, cowles, & cases, agreements, commissions to military officers and others, with other matters of the like kind. This method has been omitted at your presidency but must be taken up & carefully observed by you in future, in order for our receiving such books annually.

124. The foregoing notices will sufficiently point out how deficient you have been in transmitting to us many necessary books and papers without our entering into any further particulars wh. we could easily do. Your own discretion will guide you to supply us with every other book and paper which are proper for our information, and president Vansittart from the experience he has had of the method in which business is transacted at Fort S. George will be greatly assisting herein and we accordingly recommend this matter to his particular attention.

125. You acquaint us in your letter of the 3rd of Feb. that it was probable the Royal George might arrive in England before the ships Calcutta & Hardwicke. You had omitted inserting the particulars of the Bills drawn by them in the triplicate letter sent by the Royal George lest we might be distressed by not having the Cargoes of those Ships to answer so large a demand. As you imagined so it happened that the Royal George arrived upward of two months before the others, but your precaution was useless. The duplicates or triplicates of most of those bills were immediately presented and although we could not accept them in form for want of the said particulars yet their time went on from the day of their presentment according to the custom of merchants, & as this must always be the case your duplicate & triplicate letters are always to be exact transcripts of the originals not only with respect to bills but to every thing else.

126. You are guilty of a great omission in advising the bills drawn upon us which is the occasion of much trouble and may be attended sometimes with very bad consequences which is the constantly leaving out the dates of them in your letters. You must therefore not only see that this particular is rectified in future but that the utmost exactness is observed both with respect to the bills themselves and the advices relating to them.

127. This caution with respect to the bills themselves is apparently necessary from the mistakes we continually find in them in the names, sums and other particulars the result of carelessness in the persons who write and those who examine them. We could point out many instances but we shall only here take notice of two. By the Royal George you advised a bill payable to Martin Stone & Blackwell which by the bill was payable to Ironside, Belchier & Howe ; and by the Calcutta a bill payable to Sir Edward Clive and Messrs. Belchiers Richard Clive and King was drawn for £11666-16s-8d sterling instead of £10666-16s-8d which last was the real amount of the rupees paid into cash for it.

128. As you are sensible the writing business has been very indifferently executed we shall depend upon your taking such care in this respect that we may have no occasion to find fault in future which we cannot avoid saying we have too often had reason to do.

VIIIthly concerning the Charter

129. The power you had by the former commission to try pirates having ceased upon the demise of his late Majesty made it necessary for us to obtain a renewed commission for that purpose from the present King which we send you by the ship Warren.

IXthly of his Majesty's Squadron & Land Forces

130. The land forces wh. proceed by his Majesty's command to the East Indies this season are about 76 recruits for Colonel Draper's battallion in the ship Hawke. Five independent Companies consisting nearly of the number of 600 men commission & non-commission Officers included in the ships Pitt, Warren, Earl of Holderness, Fox & Plassy all these go directly to Fort St. George, besides the before-mentioned troops about 40 men for Colonel Coot's battallion and about 70 more for that of Colonel Morris's; Officers included will be embarked on the Bombay ships for want of room in the ships bound to the Coast and Bay, which the President & Council of Bombay will have directions to forward to your side of India by the first proper conveyances.

131. We are informed by proper authority that the said five independent companies now going to India are to be incorporated with the four companies (of the 70th or Colonel Parslow's regiment) which went last season by the way of Bombay to form a battallion for Colonel Monson in which battallion there are to be two Majors, viz. Major William Piers who went out last year. and Major Charles Chapman who proceeds on one of these ships.

132. The said battallion is to be upon the same footing with respect to difference of pay and other allowances as those already in India, and in course Colonel Monson is to be allowed £ 400 a year, and the Majors Piers and Chapman £ 200 a year each to defray the expense of house rent and entertaining their officers at such time as they shall think fit which said allowances of £400 and £200 each to the Colonel and Majors are to be in full consideration for all those gentlemen's expenses, batta in the field excepted.

- 133. We give the usual directions to the commanders of the several ships on which the King's Troops take their passage for their good usage on board as also for the surgeons attending upon and taking care of them for which they are to be paid the same head money as for our own recruits if it appears they do their duty in a satisfactory manner. The owners are paid here for the passage and diet both of the officers and private men.

134. We have thought it necessary to give you the foregoing information with respect to the King's Troops that you may know how to act

in case any of them shall happen to come to Bengal, and that you may in such case provide the earliest conveyances for their proceeding to Fort S. George to join their corps, if there.

135. His Majesty's ship the Sea-Horse which you have been acquainted in a former letter was to proceed to Fort Marlborough, sailed from Portsmouth the 8th of January, but was soon after attacked by one of the enemy's frigates of superior force called the Le Grand. After a desperate engagement which occasioned great slaughter on both sides the enemy upon the appearance of his Majesty's ship the Unicorn made the best of her way off in a shattered condition and the Sea-Horse put in at Plymouth to refit from whence she sailed again on the 4th of Feb. out. Whether she will be able to reach so far as Fort Marlborough in time for the service she was sent upon is uncertain. In case she does not we presume the Commander is under orders for his further destination with which we are unacquainted.

136. You were informed in our letter of the 31st of December that the Naval, victualling and other stores for his Majesty's service were to be laden in moities, one whereof on the ships consigned to the Coast & Bay, and the other moiety on those for Bombay. If therefore any of the Coast and Bay ships shall happen to come to Bengal without first putting in at Madras you are to take care to forward such stores as they may have on board to that Presidencies [*sic*] by the first good conveyances.

137. Your Select Committee in their letter of the 29th of Dec. 1759 intimate it as their opinion that the contests wh. have always subsisted between the King's and Company's Military, and the independence of the former on our Governors & Councils have been detrimental to the Common Cause. We are as sensible of these inconveniences as you can possibly be but as it is not in our power to remedy them any other way than by earnestly recommending it to you that when any of the King's Troops are in Bengal you do concert with them all necessary measures wherein their service is wanted with address and mutual harmony, and we hope it will have the desired effect, as his Majesty's Officers have instructions to this purpose, considering also how much they are favoured by the Company with respect to the Generous allowances they have from us in addition to those from the Government.

Supplement

138. In the 59th paragraph of this letter, we have directed that President Vansittart and the President for the time being shall be allowed a consulage or commission of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the net annual revenue of our acquired territories. In order to explain our meaning what the whole allowance to the President is to be we are to inform you that he is to have besides the said $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the net revenue of our acquired territories, 1 per cent out of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent coinage duty as regulated in our letter of the 3rd of March 1758, and also 24,000 current rupees a year by way of salary for

the expense of his table and all other charges & expenses whatsoever, which said allowances we do declare to be the whole of the President's appointments and which are not to be exceeded on any pretence whatsoever notwithstanding any former orders from us, or what custom may have introduced.

139. In the 20th paragraph of your letter of the 29th of Dec. 1759 you informed us that upon the death of Capt. Barton you had appointed Mr. Alexander Scott Master Attendant in his room. We accordingly confirm your said appointment and we are to add that when there shall happen a vacancy again by the death, coming away or otherways of Mr. Scott that the post of Master Attendant be filled up by Capt. Page Keeble who commands one of vessels of war upon the Bombay Establishment, and you are when such vacancy happens to send him immediate notice thereof that he may repair to his station accordingly.

140. It has been intimated to us that many diamonds are brought home in our ships and in particular in our small ones employed as packets without having been registered⁶ greatly to the Company's prejudice as well as to that of the fair trader. In order therefore to put a stop to such a practice, you are to give public notice before the dispatch of any ship or vessel for Europe that every person who intends to send any diamonds, do regularly and truly register them with you which register is to be transmitted to us by such ship or vessel and that all diamonds which shall be discovered to have been put aboard without being so registered will be deemed an illicit trade and that we shall proceed in such cases as the law directs.

141. Although in some instances it may not be proper to load our packet vessels with goods or at least with not so many as to frustrate the intention of their proceeding on their voyage with the utmost dispatch yet we see no reason against their taking aboard diamonds. Therefore if application shall be at any time made for sending them by such conveyances you are to give leave accordingly on their being duly registered.

142. Several of the mariners of the Prince George & Bombay Castle who agreeable to the Charter-parties were required to serve us on shore in Bengal having alleged that they received only soldier's pay for their service we have on their application and as they assent they lost their chests and bedding accounted with them for the difference between their wages as entered on the books of those ships and the pay of private sentinels besides giving each a gratuity of ten guineas. You have kept us quite uninformed of what these people received, nor were they furnished from the commanding officer with any testimonial of their deserts or what consideration had been made them. In future that we may judge more clearly in an instance of the same kind let the proper officer furnish each seaman on his discharge with a certificate as to his behaviour & the amount of what has been allowed him by way of pay, gratuity or otherwise for his service on shore in

our military that we may avoid any imposition and at the same time understand whether they have been considered according to their merit.

143. Enclosed you will receive the opinion of Council on some doubts which have arisen in the administration of justice and practice of the Mayor's Court of Madras transmitted for the information & Government of the Court of Calcutta in the like instances.

144. We have to observe on the renewed commission, enclosed as before-mentioned by the Warren, for the trial of pirates that we note your practice has hitherto been to proceed against such offenders by juries, but Your future proceedings must be before the commissioners without juries. As the instructions for this sort of proceedings are difficult to collect we cannot send them to you at present. They are not by indictments, but by articles, in the nature of charges against the criminals.

145. On enquiry into the loss of ship Stretham in your river we observe that at the time that accident happened Capt. Mason, the Commander, was ashore at Calcutta, as he informed us ill with the Gout, on which account we passed over that absence without any censure; but as it is our opinion that the Commanders should always be on board their ships whenever they are moved from one place to another, you must not in future give any permission either for bringing up or carrying down any of our ships in your river, without at the same time strictly enjoining the commanders to be on board during the whole time they are so working up or down if their health will possibly permit.

146. You are hereby directed to cause plans forthwith to be made of Fort William & all its fortifications & works in the condition they shall be at the time of your receiving this letter or soon afterwards, together with plans of all other places and works in any part of your Presidency which may be proper for our information and this you are to cause to be done with all convenient dispatch that we may receive them as soon as possible.

We are,

Your loving friends,

L. Sullivan/T. Rous/P. Godfrey/H.C. Boulton/
J. Dorrien/H. Hadley/B. Walton/ G. Dudley/
C. Gough/G. Rooke/G. Steevens/J. Harrison/
J. Browne/R. Warner/J. Raymond/T. Tullie/
F. Pigou/ T. Waters/R. Smith/H. Savage.

London,

13th March 1764.

LETTER DATED 6 MAY 1761

Members of Secret Committee of Court—capture of a French ship—prospect of fall of Pondicherry—Sumatra settlements captured by the French—Count Estaing's conduct—proposed peace parleys at Augsburg—reinstatement of Messrs. Sumner and McGwire.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Although we have little reason to doubt but that you will have received Our General Letter of the 13th March last, which went in Quadruplicate by the ships Warren, Earl of Holderness, Fox and Plassey long before this can come to your hand by the Norfolk and Chesterfield, yet lest it should have proved otherwise We send you by these conveyances Copies of Our said Letter.

2. The said four first mentioned Ships sailed from Spithead with a fair and steady wind on the 30th of March.

3. Since the departure of those Ships the Annual Election of Directors came on, and in course they have been formed into Committee, the Gentlemen who compose that for Secret Affairs are, Laurence Sullivan Esquire Chairman of the Court of Directors, Thomas Rous Esqr. Deputy John Boyd, Christopher Burrow and Charles Cutts Esqrs., three of whom make a Quorum, all Instructions Orders and Directions therefore the said Committee or the Committee for the time being shall give at any Time must be duly observed and complied with by each and every person or persons to whom they are directed.

4. These two Ships the Norfolk and Chesterfield are Laden with sundry Goods Merchandize and Stores nearly in equal proportions for your Presidency and that of Fort St. George ; those consigned to you will appear by the respective Invoices and Bills of Loading to which you are referred for the particulars.

5. Besides which there are Government Stores and Treasures on board and if the same have not been disembarked at Fort St. George, you are to see them safely delivered to the Proper Officers.

6. About Fifty Soldiers, for forming a Troop of Light Cavalry for Our Service on the Coast of Choromandel and to be mounted there take passage in equal divisions on these Ships and their Commander Captain John Freake goes on the Chesterfield, should these Troops, by the Ships being disabled thro' the lateness of the Season from making Fort St. George be brought to your Presidency, you are to give them the quickest Conveyance possible to Madrass and afford Capt. Freake the requisit[e] Assistance for

accomplishing Our intentions in his Speedy arrival with the Troops at his post there. You are also to send thither Samuel Evans Cadet designed for the service of the Presidency if he shall for the same reason have been brought to you.

7. The Norfolk and Chesterfield being taken up for the voyage to India only as you have been very particularly informed in Our last Letter We refer you thereto for the terms and conditions, and in order for the final adjustment and payment of the Accounts of their hire We transmit you by each Ship a stated Account of what has been paid by Us here and what remains to be paid either by you or Our President and Council at Fort St. George at whichsoever the place the delivery of the Cargos shall be finally completed and you are to make proper discharges accordingly.

8. Though both these Ships are consigned first to Fort St. George, ye if they cannot from the lateness of the Season repair to that Port but shall be obliged previously to proceed to Bengal, you are then to cause all possible dispatch to be made in unlivering [unloading] the Cargos intended for your Presidency, That they may proceed to Fort St. George without loss of time to prevent the incurring Demorage, and We would have you in prevention thereof consider whether it may not be right to send only one of them to Fort St. George if she can take in the others consignment for that Presidency which we apprehend may be done, and in such case the Ship which does not proceed may be finally paid off by you. However, this is a measure which we shall leave you to determine upon in such manner as shall appear most for Our Interest.

9. We have given similar directions to Fort St. George for the conveyance of the consignments by the two ships for you either on one or both of them as according to circumstances shall appear best.

10. That We may have all the satisfaction possible as to the necessity of complying with your indents for Iron Ordnance you must from time to time send a particular Account what parts of your Fortifications Works and other uses they are intended for, also an exact Return of all your Guns in Store and those mounted and where which will be the means of obviating the difficulties We are under, when considering of your Military Indents.

11. In our last Letter you were acquainted We sent you the renewed Commission for trying Pirates by the Ship Warren and you will herewith receive full Instructions for carrying the same into execution, which We desire may be strictly adhered to.

12. To what We said in Our Letter of the 31st December and the 13th of March last relative to the Situation of Publick Affairs, We are to add that the Several Belligerent Powers in Europe seem all to be very desirous of Peace, except the Empress Queen, whose views at present are such as cannot be easily terminated¹, in general it is though Overtures have been or will be made for holding a Congress to put an end to the further effusion of blood by a Treaty for a lasting peace. However great preparations are

making on all sides for opening and carrying on this Summers Campaign with the utmost vigour, and on the part of Great Britain, if a Peace should be agreed upon, it seems by the measures which the Government are taking, it will be done sword in hand.

13. In addition to the account We gave you in Our last Letter of Captures from the Enemy, We have now the pleasure of informing you, that His Majesty's Ships Hero and Venus on the 2d. of April in the L[a]ttitude of $43^{\circ}.30''$ North fell in with and took a French East India Ship called the Bertin, pierced for 64 Guns, mounting 28 and manned with 353 Men 93 of them soldiers, belonging to the French East India Company, from port L'Orient bound to the Isle of France and Pondicherry, laden with Ordnance and Naval Stores and Merchandize and 24000 Dollars. She sailed in company with the Valiant East India Ship of the same size and Force and the Fidelle Frigate of 24 Guns belonging to the said Company on the 28th March. The Venus has brought the Prize to Plymouth, and the Hero went in quest of the other India Ship and Frigate.

14. We have received the disagreeable News of the Capture of the Ajax by the La Prothee, a French 64 Gun Ship, near Scilly and of her being carried into Brest the 10th of March last. Captain Maitland who succeeded to the Command (on the death of Capt. Lindsay which happened the 6th of November preceding) threw all the Packets overboard, agreeable to directions on such an Unhappy Event, so that We are greatly at a loss for the Intelligence, which the Advices by that Ship would have given of the situation of Affairs, as well in the other parts of India as upon the Coast of Choromandel, however We have the satisfaction of learning in general from Captain Maitland, and from some Gentlemen, Passengers on the Ajax, that the Operations against Pondicherry were carried on with great vigour, and unless relieved by the French Fleet, there was a happy prospect of its falling into Our Hands.

15. We are informed that Monsr. D'Asche certainly arrived at Brest in a Frigate from India some time in March, and although the French use their Utmost Endeavours to conceal all intelligence they receive off [*sic*] Indian Affairs, yet from what can be collected from Common Reports in France there is the greatest probability of their Fleet having suffered considerably at the French Islands in the Violent Storm We took notice of in Our Letter of the 31st December last, if this shall really be the Case, We flatter Ourselves it will not be long before We shall have the pleasing News of the Fall of that Rival Settlement, Pondicherry.

16. We are in general informed by Captain Maitland and the before mentioned Gentlemen, that Fort Marlborough and all the rest of Our Settlements upon the West Coast of Sumatra are fallen into the Enemy's hands, and that the Denham was burn[e]d in Bencoolen Road by the Crew, to prevent her being carried off by the Enemy. So far We have no reason to doubt the truth of the account, but We are quite uninformed as to the

Fate of Our Covenant and Military Servants, whether they are Prisoners, saved themselves by retreat, or indeed of anything relating to them. Under this State of uncertainty We cannot give any directions relating to this unhappy Affair otherwise than in general Terms, That We shall expect you and Our other Presidencies have used and will use your best endeavours to secure a footing upon the West Coast, to reestablish Our Settlements and Servants, and taken all such measures as have appeared or shall appear necessary on the occasion. We make no doubt if the Enemy were in a condition to keep possession for any time of Fort Marlborough and Our other Settlements (which however We think they had not Sufficient Strength for) that Admiral Steevens has given such Assistance as to have effectually recovered them before this, especially considering the present weak condition of the French in India.

17. We cannot help taking notice in this place of the behaviour of the Count D Estaign², who contrary to his parole not to serve directly or indirectly against the English during the present War, was in one of the Ships employed in the destruction of Our Factory at Gombroon, and falsely asserted that he engaged only not to serve on the Coast of Choromandel, the contrary whereof appears by the Copy of his Parole, which has been Transmitted to Us from Fort St. George. This among many others is an instance, of what little dependence is to be placed on French Faith, whenever they have an opportunity of finding a breach of it may tend to their advantage, and although We have no certain account of the Particulars of the attack upon Our Settlements on the West Coast of Sumatra, yet We have reason to believe the Count D'Estaign has again violated his honour by being concerned therein.

18. Since writing the foregoing, We can with certainty inform you that all the Partys engaged in the present War have agreed to the assembling of a Congress at the City of Augsbourg and Plenipotent[i]aries are accordingly named as you will observe by the enclosed Gazettes who are to treat of the means for re-establishing the general Tranquility of Europe. The agreeing to this Congress however does no way retard the preparations for War on the contrary they are carried on with Surprizing Industry, and as we observed before the Government by their measures seem determined to make Peace with Sword in hand. As Hostilities are thus intended to be carried on until a Treaty of Peace is settled or at least until a Cessation of Arms is agreed upon, which last as yet there is no appearance of being the Case the utmost use therefore must be made of our present Superiority over the Enemy in every part of India until notice is given to the Contrary

19. The Friends of Messrs. Sumner and Mc Gwire who stand dismissed from our Service by the Orders in our Letter of the 21st January 1761 have strongly and earnestly entreated us to revoke those orders and restore them to our Favour. As we are ever inclined to convince our Servants that Merit Character and Abilities have due Weight with us, we shall in consideration of the distinguished Services of these two Gentlemen overlook the offence

for which they were dismissed and suppress our just Resentment, on condition they make a suitable confession and acknowledgement of their Fault which so justly incurred our displeasure by a Letter addressed to the Court of Directors a Copy of which is to be entered upon your Consultation, This being done we direct that they be immediately restored to the Rank they held in our Service by our Orders previous to their said Dismission, and we hope this Mark of our Clemency will excite them to a just and assiduous discharge of their duty.

20. To prevent any mistakes as to the Station of the said two Gentlemen their Names are here inserted in their proper Rank Vizt.

Henry Vansittart Esqr. Governour

Mr. Peter Amyatt

William Ellis

Wm. Brightwell Sumner

William Mc Gwire

Stanlake Batson

William Billers

Harry Verelst

Harry Smyth

Samuel Waller

Culling Smith

We are,

Your Loving Friends

Lau. Sullivan/Thos. Rous/John Boyd
W. Thornton/W. Thornton [*sic*]/Bourchier
Walton/F. Wm. Barrington/Richd. Seward
Willi. Barwell/J. Harrison/G. Rooke/Richd.
Smith/Fredk. Pigou/James Creed/Thos.
Waters/Christo. Burrow/Richd. Warner
Christo. Baron.

LONDON,

6th May 1761

Sent Pr Norfolk & Chesterfield
& Genl. Lawrence

LETTER DATED 19 JUNE 1761

Revolution in Bengal—no immediate prospect of peace in Europe—restitution to be claimed from the Dutch.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. The Norfolk for the Coast and Bay also the Boscawen, Earl of Elgin, True Briton, Calcutta and Roy[al] Captain for Bombay Sailed from Spithead together on the 26th of May, the Chesterfield also for the Coast and Bay [was

so unlucky as not to reach Spithead until the 28th of [the] same month so that she lost the Convoy the beforement[ioned] Ships Sailed under.

2. You have been advised in a short Letter from Secretary dated the 20th of May last by the Norfolk and Chesterfield of the safe arrival of the Shaftesbury from [Fort] St. George and the Harcourt and Stormont from Bomb[ay at] Spithead on the 18th of the same month, they Sailed [in] Company from St. Helena the 25th of February where they [joined] the Houghton also from Bombay. We received no Packet from your Presidency by any o the said Ships.

3. But on the 16th Instant came to hand a Packet from your Presidency by a Danes Ship called the Tranquebar by the way of Copenhagen which you sent from Bengal by the Dutch [ship] Vlissengen to the Cape from whence it was forwarded to Us [by] the Governour in the said Dane Ship, In this Packet came General Letter under date of the 10th November, Letters from President Vansittart and your Select Committee of the 12th November together with the several Papers agreeable to the [list].

4. Upon a Perusal of the said several Letters and [packet] We have the agreeable satisfaction of finding that the great Revolution in the Subahship therein mentioned has been [and] is likely to prove greatly advantageous to the Company. We have not now time to enter into any particulars on the happy Event and can therefore only recommend and leave it [to] your discretion to act in such manner as shall appear to you to be most [sic] for the Companys Interest.

[5.] We clearly see that this Revolution has been happily brought about principally by the good Conduct and Address of our President Vansittart and We accordingly sincerely and hea[r]tily return him our Thanks for his great Services and disinterested Behaviour on this occasion.

[6.] You have been already directed to our Letters of this Season to co-operate with our other Presidencies in the re-establishing our Settlements upon the West Coast of Sumatra. We have since the date of those Letters after as Strict an Examination into the Conduct of Our Servants there as the several Narratives transmitted to Us and our own Enquirys [of?] Captain Tryon could furnish us with information thought proper to restore them to the Company's Service in order to return to their several Stations on the West Coast, as Governor Carte[r] and several others were at Fort St. George when the Shaftesbury [came?] away, We have given some general directions to President Pigot and his Council with respect thereto as also for their maintenance in the mean time, We herewith send you a Copy thereof for your Information that you may act in a similar manner in every circumstance so far as you may be concerned, or your Assistance may be necessary.

[7.] By Captain Tryon who left the Cape on the Third of March We are informed that Seven Ships of War from the French Islands had been

there between the beginning of December and that time, all of which were returned with Provisions of which they were in the utmost want as well for the Inhabitants as their Naval and Military Forces. This is a happy circumstance as it Amounts to a certainty that Pondicherry has not been materially relieved¹ during the monsoon by their Fleet, and consequently that nothing could prevent their reassuming their Operations against that Place as soon as the Season would admit, and considering the distressed Condition of the Enemy upon [the?] coming away of the Shaftesbury We have the greatest reason to flatter ourselves that formidable and Rival Settlement is before this time fallen into Our hands.

8. Although as has been noticed in Our form[er] Letters a Congress has been agreed to be held by the several Powers at War to consider of a General Pacification, yet this Event seems still to be at a Distance, and Military Operations are going on in every part with the utmost Vigour. His Majestys Arms [have] been blest with the entire reduction of Belleisle an Island upon the Coast of France, the Citadel whereof was surrendered upon terms on the Seventh Instant, and another Grand Expedition is preparing with the utmost Dilligence and Dispatch, the destination whereof [remains] a Secret.

9. In addition to what We said in Our General [Letter] of the 13th March last and in order to enforce the same [it is] very material and highly necessary to remind you of recovering from the Dutch Agents in Bengal a full and ample restitution for the Damages we sustained and [the] Charges incurred on Account of their unjustifiable and [.....] Attempts in November 1759 this they are obliged to by the Treaty concluded between Our late President Mr. Clive and [the] Council and [the] Dutch Company's Agents and We apprehen[d] nothing remained to be settled but ascertaining Our Damages. It is the more necessary to insist upon this being adjusted with the Dutch Agents and the Amount received as the very Claims which the Owners of the Shipping employed to oppose this Hostile attempt will [.....] other Charges consequent thereupon Amount to a very large Sum of Money which We have been or shall be under the necessity of making good.

We are

Your Loving Friends

Lau. Sullivan/ Thos. Rous/Hy. Crabb
 Boulton/John Dorrien/Christo. Burrow/John
 Harrison/Fredk. Pigou/G. Rooke/James
 Creed/Bourchier Walton/Christo. Baron/F. W.
 Barrington/Richd. Warner/Cha. Gough
 Timothy Tullie/Richd. Smith/Tho. Waters/
 Richd. Seward/S. Harrison.

19th June 1761.

LETTER DATED 30 SEPTEMBER 1761

Capture of Pondicherry—shipping news—details of exports—instructions regarding investments—abandonment of Sumatra by the French—proposed congress at Augsburg—capture of French ships—frauds in construction work—Supercargoes and Residents for China—Company to support Shah Alam as emperor—alleged complicity of Col. Caillaud in a plot to murder Shah Alam.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our several Letters to you in the course of last Season bore date and went by the conveyances hereunder mentioned vizt.

5 November 1760	General Letter by way of Fort Marlborough	by His Majesty's Ship the Seahorse
31st December	do	P Hawke
21st January 1761	do	P Pitt
13th March	do	P Warren, Earl of Holderness, Fox and Plassey.
27th March	Letter from the Secretary by the Same Ships the first whereof carried also the Company's Letter to the Nabob.	
6th May	General Letter	P Norfolk and Chesterfield.
20th	Letter from the Secretary	P Ditto and
19th June	General Letter	P Chesterfield.

2. You have been already informed of the receipt of the advices you transmitted by the Dutch Ship Vlissingen, and We have since received your following Letters.

Letters dated the 15th and 23rd January 1761 from the President and
do. 16th..... from Do. to
the Secret Committee by the London Packet

Letters from the Select Committee dated the 12th and 16th January 1761 to the Secret Committee, and

General Letter of the 16th of the said January by the Royal duke.

3. His Majesty's Ship the Liverpool, and our Snow the London arrived, the first the 19th and the other the 24th July last at Spithead with the most agreeable and important Intelligence of the Capture of Pondicherry.

4. The Houghton and Royal Duke arrived the 13th of August at Plymouth and are since come safe to their mooring, they both sailed from St. Helena the 26th May at which time the Convoy was not arrived nor were any of the Company's Ships there.

5. But we have since, on the 31st of that month, been informed by the Count Moltke a Danish Ship from Copenhagen, that the Suffolk imported at St. Helena the 27th May from China which brought the disagreeable account that on the 20th January about eleven at night the Griffin Struck on a Rock between Mindinao and Jolo in the Latitude of $6^{\circ} 48''$ No. and was unfortunately lost. All the People were saved but no part of the Cargo as the Ship sunk very Soon. On the 24th March following the Suffolk parted with the Valentine, Pocock and Oxford in cloudy weather and a confused Sea, whose arrival at the Island was hourly expected on the 29th May last when the Dane left it.

6. Having with the utmost expedition refitted the London Packet We now return her to Fort St. George in order to give Some general informations and directions previous to the departure of our Ships of this Season but the principal design of this dispatch [is] that they may timely provide a Stock of Treasure for the China Ship[s] against their arrival at Fort St. George, and concert proper measures for the safe Import of the Ships intended for the West Coast, that they may be forwarded to China without loss of time, to both which points we shall particularly speak in their proper places.

7. The Secret Committee for the present direction is composed of the following Gentlemen vizt. Laurence Sullivan Esqr. Chairman of the Court, Thomas Rous Esqr. Deputy, John Boyd, Christopher Burrow and Charles Cutts Esqrs. whose orders and Instructions are [to?] be particularly attended to and observed, three of the said Gentlemen being a Quorum.

8. The undermentioned List contains the names of the Ships each of the Burthen of 499 Tons taken into our Service for the ensuing Season, the several Parts they are consigned to and the times We propose to dispatch them, if no unforeseen Accidents prevent the Same vizt.

Tilbury	Roger Mainwaring	Coast and Bay	} the beginning of December next
New Ship	John Clements	St. Helena & China	
Essex	George Jackson	} Coast and China & to call at Madeira	} beginning of January 1762
Houghton	Charles Newton		
New Ship	Watkin Partington		
Harcourt	Richard Morrison	} Bencoolen & China	
Stormont	Henry Fletcher		
New Ship	Gilbert Slater		
New Ship	George Stewart		
Clinton	Nathaniel Smith	Madeira and Coast & Bay	

Hardwicke	Brook Samson	}	Coast & Bay	}	beginning of February
Walpole	Parson Fenner				
Drake	John Smith				
New Ship	Thomas Pearce				
Winchelsea	Thomas Howe	Bombay & Bengal & back to Bombay		}	to call at Madeira
Hector	John Williams	Bombay			
Prince of Wales	William Roberts	}	Bombay	}	the middle of March
New Ship	John Allen				
New Ship	Thomas Riddell				
New Ship	Thomas Rous	Bombay and China			

9. We are to observe to you in general that all the said Ships are taken upon the same Freights, Terms and Conditions as those of last Season.

10. According to the best Calculate We can at present form our Exports on the said Ships will consist of the following Particulars :

406 Bales of Cloth	} For the Presidency of Fort St. George
25 Bales of Long Ells	
230 Tons of Copper	
Lead and Iron for use only which may be about 40 Tons of each article	
1336 Bales of Cloth	} For the Presidency of Fort William
125 Bales of Long Ells	
300 Bales of Broad Long Ells	
400 Tons of Copper	
Lead and Iron for use only amount to from 40 to 50 Tons of each article	
2030 Bales of Cloth	} For the Presidency of Bombay
400 Bales of Long Ells	
110 Bales of Broad Long Ells	
540 Tons of Copper	
Lead and Iron for use only which may amount to from 30 to 40 Tons of each article	

158 Bales of Cloth	}	For the Scindy Market
40 Bales of Long Ells		
354 Bales of Cloth	}	For the Bussora Market
230 Bales of Long Ells		
60 Bales of Long Ells	}	For the Gombroon Market
10 Chests of Treasure Some Iron Stores & Necessaries the particulars of which cannot now be ascertained		
610 Bales of Cloth	}	For Canton
783 Bales of Long Ells		
20 Bales of Cambletts and Hairbines and from 500 to		
600 Tons of Lead		

11. By the before going List of Ships you will observe several of them are to call at the Island of Madeira to take in Wine. We intend to direct our Agents there to consign to our Presidencies of Fort William and Fort St. George 430 Pipes the proportion whereof for each Presidency will be mentioned in our next Letters; we shall direct also 100 Pipes to be laden on the Bombay Ships for the use of that Presidency.

12. As to Stores of all kinds for our several Presidencies we shall send what appear to be necessary having a regard to the very large acquisition of these Articles upon the Capture of Pondicherry which we apprehend are sufficient to give an ample supply not only to Fort St. George but to our other Presidencies and which we have accordingly recommended to be done in the most effectual manner.

13. Over and above the foregoing Exports on the Companys account there will be laden for the use of His Majesty's Squadron about 700 Tons of Victualling and 500 Tons of Naval Stores, which if it can be done conveniently will be sent in equal proportions as last Season to Fort St. George and Bombay, but this will be more particularly noticed in our next advices; besides the said Stores there will be upward of 100 Tons of Cloathing for his Majesty's Land Forces, all of which except about Five Tons for the Artillery Companies at Bombay, will be laden on the Coast and Bay Ships; should any part of such Store[s] or Cloathing be casually imported with you, be active in conveying them to the Port of their destination or conform to such advices as you shall have received or may reach you concerning them from his Majesty's Commanding Officers in the different Departments.

14. There will be about 70 Recruits proceed[ing] in the Coast and China or Coast and Bay Ships for Col. Draper's Battalion. We are not at present informed of any intended for the other Corps.

15. We shall send about 100 Recruits upon the West Coast Ship for the Service of that Presidency; but we do not propose to send Recruit[s] by the Ships of this Season to any other of our Presidencies.

16. This early Information of the Ships taken into our Service for the ensuing Season will give you and our other Presidencies time to set about the several Investments for them, and altho' as you will observe we send no Treasure but to Fort Marlborough, we apprehend they may be well carried on, when the Situation and circumstances of our three Presidencies from the Capture of Pondicherry, the great addition to our Revenues in Bengal by the late Revolution there, and our being in possession of Surat with its Revenues¹ are duly considered, we shall therefore depend upon our several Presidencies mutually assisting each other in furnishing Supplies where wanted for the Investments and Expences of each Presidency and in particular our China Trade must be taken care of as hereafter mentioned.

17. As from our pointing out the time we propose for dispatching our several Ships you may form a Judgment when they may be expected to arrive in India. We recommend to you and our other Presidencies to use all necessary precautions for their safe import at the several places of their destination and in particular to Fort St. George that they may be ready to forward the China Ships to Canton, and the Ships designed for your Presidency thither as soon after their arrival with them as possible.

18. We have intimated it to Fort St. George that the Principal Objects of this dispatch are for the timely provision of Treasure for China and taking the necessary care of the Ships consigned to the West Coast of Sumatra and China Observing that the late happy event of the Capture of Pondicherry has most probably given them such Command of the Revenues of the Country, that with the Sums they will receive on account of their Nabob's Debt, the produce of the Settled Revenues and Farms together with the Reduction of their Military Expences which we hope have been effected; We shall depend not only upon their having Resources sufficient for their Investment and Expences but be also capable of giving if not a competent, yet a very considerable aid in Treasure for the carrying on our China Trade in addition to the Stock our Supra Cargoes there have on hand, and as there are good Grounds, by the last advices from your Presidency to hope that from the defeat of the Shawzada, the retrenchment of the enormous Expences of the Works and the prospect of the renewa¹ of Tranquillity in the adjacent Countries whereby the excessive Charge of your Presidency will be so far lessened that you will be able to afford a copious assistance to Madrass for the Support of that Branch, We have directed them to make their application to and trust you will use all possible means to give that Presidency an adequate supply should they stand in need thereof for loading as far as Thirty or at least Twenty five Thousand Pounds each on the Essex, Houghton & Capt. Partington[s] Ship for Canton, and such aid it may be expected you will be able to replace by the Money you may receive by Bills on us at the Rates established in our Letter of the 2d. April 1760.

19. With respect to the other principal Object intended to be proved for We have good reason to believe that the French have abandoned Our Settlements upon the West Coast of Sumatra and that Our Servants have been re-established there either with or without the assistance of Part of His Majestys Naval Force in concurrence with our other Presidencies, in such a manner as Prudence suggested agreeable to the general directions given in our Letters of last Season, upon this presumption, we shall order the four China Ships vizt. Harcourt, New Ship Slater, New Ship Stewart, and the Stormont to proceed first to Fort Marlborough with the Treasure before-mentioned, some Men, Stores and Necessaries; which being delivered as much Pepper as can be procured is as soon after as possible to be put on board them in time for saving their passage to Canton the Same Season, with which they are to be dispatched and consigned to such Supra Cargoes as we shall appoint to transact our Affairs the ensuing Season; of all this we have directed immediate notice to be sent to our Servants upon the West Coast of Sumatra that they may be ready to comply in the earliest manner with these our directions and Intentions.

20. Should any unforeseen Events have prevented the Re-establishment of our said Settlements before this is received, we would have you exert yourselves to the utmost of your abilities in contributing thereto with all possible expedition applying for this purpose for assistance from his Majesty's Squadron having directed our Agents at Fort St. George that with respect to the four Ships consigned thither as beforementioned they take such measure as they shall judge prudent and most effectual to Secure their safe arrival and speedy departure from thence for China as well as that the necessary care be taken of their West Coast Cargoes.

21. Such directions can at present be given only in general, your Prudence must supply the rest as far as the proper assistance and Support shall be requisit from you and we shall accordingly place our dependance thereon.

22. Preliminary Articles for a general Peace cannot yet be settled, consequently none of the Plenipotentiaries of the Belligerent Powers are as yet gone to the proposed Congress at Augsbourg, the French notwithstanding their present distressed Situation, insist upon such terms as his Majesty cannot agree to and indeed there seems at present to be no prospect of a Peace, or we fear at least not until this Campaign is over.

23. A Bristol Privateer called the King George fortunately fell in with a French Ship in the month of July, 20 Leagues to the Westward of Cape Finistere, and after a sharp engagement took & carried her into Camarina Bay near Corunna, she was bound to the Isle of Bourbon loaded with Stores & Merchandize is about 600 Tons burthen and carried 22 Nine Pounders and 208 Men.

24. His Majesty's ship Acquilon being on a Cruize fell in on the 7th August 250 Leagues to the Westward of Cape Finistere with the Subtile a

French Frigate from the Island of Mauritius belonging to their East India Company of 16 Guns and 84 Men which he took and has brought her into Plymouth; the Packets we are informed were all thrown overboard before the Capture.

25. The said Frigate sailed from the Mauritius on the 6th May, we have used our endeavours to get some Intelligence from the Prisoners; but they are so reserved that we can learn Little more than that the Men of War there, said to be about Nine, were in great want of Masts and Stores, the Crews very sickly, and that the Islanders in general were in great distress for Provisions and Necessaries, as all the Intelligence we have yet received has been collected by our Agent Mr. William Hambly at Plymouth, we send you now Extracts from [his?] letter for your further Information.

26. Altho' the beforementioned Captures are more particularly interesting to this Company yet we cannot avoid informing you also that some of His Majesty's Ships took near Cadiz on the 14th August the Achilles French Man of War of 64 Guns and a Frigate, after a Short, but severe Engagement, and carried them into Gibraltar Bay. These Ships had in the course of their Cruize made many Captures.

27. And on the same day the Courageux of 74 Guns and 700 Men from St. Domingo with a very rich Cargo was taken near Cape Finisterre by his Majesty's Ship the Bellona, the Enemy had 240 men Slain and 110 Wounded in this Engagement. The Brilliant Frigate, being in Company, engaged two French Frigates and did them very considerable Damage, and had our Ships been in a Condition to have pursued them, they would also have been most probably taken.

28. It is with inexpressible concern we observe from the Enquiries you have made into the Frauds committed in carrying on your new works; by a combination of those employed upon them of what great Sums we have been plundered, at a time too when Money was so much wanted for the Service in general, not only at Your but our other Presidencies which Mr. Holwell says (as appears upon Consultation of the 15th May 1760) "from the strongest presumptive Proofs he apprehends will glaringly appear to amount at least to one third of the whole Charge to the month of December 1759."

29. It is true that upon your said Enquiry very large Sums are evidently proved upon several Persons and a considerable part recovered, but at the same time, We must observe that your Enquiry and Proceedings are too Superficial as we cannot imagine the Banians could without the Privity or even Consent of their Masters be guilty of such gross Frauds, and there is the greatest reason to believe that if you had gone deeper therein you might have found some of our own Servants the principal Plunderers for it is impossible these Iniquitys could be carried on without the Connivance and participation of the Paymasters & Storekeepers and it is extremely surprizing that we should find Mr. Boddam's name mentioned in the account of your Proceedings without any Remark or Enquiry made how far and in what manner he was concerned therein.

30. It seems very extraordinary that Capt. Brohier & Mr. Louis should upon their absconding evade all your Searches to recover them, as from Letters which some of the formers Friends here have received from him he was then no farther off than Chinsura, could either Brohier or Louis have been secured we apprehend you might have been able to have got to the bottom of this iniquitous Affair and which we strongly recommend if ever it shall be in your power to get them.

31. If Mr. Francis Charlton the Storekeeper is not concerned as a Party or Principal in the Frauds, at least by his own Confession the shameful neglect of his Duty has undoubtedly contributed thereto, and is consequently unworthy of our Service from which he is to be forthwith dismissed.

32. Your calling upon and making the Banians answerable to the Company for the Frauds committed in the Offices of which our Covenant Servants are the Principals is a most inconsist[ent] and unreasonable Doctrine, as we always look upon such Principals accountable for the whole Concerns of their respective Offices and the Banians answerable to them.

33. And here we do declare that we expect and positively direct if our Servants employ Banians or Black People under them, they shall be accountable for their Conduct and make good whatever the Company may be wronged of by such Banians or Black People.

34. Upon the whole, we would have you resume the Enquiry and very particularly examine whether any and whom of our Servants as well those who have left Bengal as those remaining have been concerned in, or had any connection with others in the beforementioned Frauds, and give us an exact & minute account of the same and you are to take the utmost pains for recovering as much more of what we have been defrauded of as is possible to be done.

35. The attested Copy of Mr. Brohier's Bond for Rups. 20,000 and the Judgment passed thereon by the Mayors Court which you mention to have sent by the Royal duke that we may come upon him if he appears in Europe or his Effects should any be discovered, are not received or any notice taken thereof in the List of the Packet.

Supplement

36. Since writing the foregoing, the undernamed Ships are arrived under Convoy of His Majesty's Ship the Portland. They Sailed from St. Helena the 1st July and came into the Do[wne]s [?] the 20th Instant vizt: The Orslow from Fort St. George, Latham from Bengal, Valentine, Pocock, Suffolk and Oxford from China. When they left St. Helena, the Lion Man of War one of the Ships appointed Convoy was not arrived, nor were any of the Company's Ships remaining there.

37. By the Latham we have received your several Packets and therein the Letters, Papers & Books as far as at present appears agreeable to your Lists.

38. We have chosen and appointed the following named Gentlemen to be the Council of Supra Cargos for conducting our affairs in China the ensuing Season vizt. Messrs. Thomas Fitzhugh, Samuel Blount, John Burrow, Richard Wood, Nathaniel Garland, Alexander Hume, Stephen Devisme, Francis Wood, Benjamin Torin, Thomas Thomas, William Rous and John Walton and for their assistance we have appointed Mr. Thomas Bevan Writer.

39. The Ships which are to be under the management of the said Council are all those mentioned in the List in the preceding part of this Letter to be consigned first to St. Helena Fort St. George, and the West Coast as also the True Briton expected to arrive at Canton from Bombay in the year 1762 or in case of any accident to the True Briton any other Ship which may be sent in her stead, as likewise all such Ships as shall arrive or be at Canton in the said year from any of the Companys Settlements in India destitute of Supra Cargos customarily called Casual Ships.

40. And agreeable to our Method for some time past the following Persons are appointed to continue in China as Our Residents for the year 1763 vizt., Messrs. Thomas Fitzhugh, Samuel Blount, Nathaniel Garland, Alexander Hume, Francis Wood, Thomas Smith and William Rous, and in case of the decease of any one of the said Residents Mr. Benjamin Torin is to stay there in his stead, and Mr. Thomas Bevan, the Writer, to remain in China during our pleasure.

41. The Shawzada's defeat by Major Carnac, & in consequence hereof his throwing himself upon you for protection, is an Event of so extraordinary a nature, and the State of Public Affairs so fluctuating in Bengal, that we cannot give any other Directions thereupon, than that all your endeavour must be to pursue such measures, as after the most Serious and mature consideration, shall appear most likely and best adapted to settle the Tranquility of the Country and be for the Interest of Company.

We are,

Your Loving Friends

Lau. Sullivan/Thos. Lous/John Bayd/Cha.
Cutts/Rich. Warner/Cha. Gough/Timothy
Tullie/Thos. Waters/Caristr. Burrow/Will.
Barwell/James Creed/John Dorrien/Christr.
Baron/G. Rooke/John Harrison/Hy. Crabb
Boulton/Fredk. Pigou/W. Thornton/Bourchier
Walton.

London,
30th September 1761.

Postscript

[1.] The Lion one of the Two Men of War destined to Convoy the Companys returning ships from St. Helena arrived at Plymouth the 2nd Instant. She sailed from that Island the 30th of July with the Lord Anson from



Shah Alam II

Bengal the only Ship which arrived there after the Portland Man of War the other Convoy sailed. The Lord Anson was separated from the Lion near Ferdinando Loronho in a very hard Gale of Wind which lasted about five Hours but from what We learn by the Lieutenant who brought up the St. Helena Packet We are in no Pain for her Safety.

[2.] Governour Hutchinson informs us that the Lord Anson left Bengal the 23rd of March and brought the News of the Shawzada's being proclaimed Emperor, that a Faction of which the late Vizir is at the Head had set up a Nephew of the Shawzada to oppose him^a and that it was therefore supposed a Detachment from the Forces at Calcutta will join and march to Delhy with the Troops the Shawzada can raise and place him upon the Throne.

[3.] Although the Lord Anson is not yet arrived with your Advices yet We have great Reason from the Care Mr. Hutchinson always takes to send us any material Intelligence he can collect upon the arrival of Our Shipping that what We have Quoted from him as beforementioned is fact, We own if your Endeavours for settling the Shawzada upon the Throne of his ancestors could be carried into Execution without Risque to the Company and at a moderate Expence it may secure him in our Interest and be the means of settling the Peace and Quiet of the Kingdom; but as a Transaction of this Kind depends upon many Circumstances and Unforeseen Events and you have most probably already Embarked in this undertaking we are entirely at a loss to give you any Directions or even Our Sentiments thereupon in any other than these General Terms that We hope you have acted and will act with the utmost Caution on considering all Circumstances with that Prudence and Attention which an Affair of such a Serious and important Nature requires.

[4.] This is the third Revolution in Bengal wherein the very being of the Company has been and from their Consequences may still be at stake. Your advancing Jaffier Ally Cawn to the Subahship in the room of Surrajah Dowlah was undoubtedly a necessary measure as well for the good of the Country in General as the Interest of the Company in Particular. Your afterwards deposing Jaffier Ally Cawn and settling Cossim Ally Cawn in his room We hope was done also with the same View upon this Presumption and Confidence that other Motives whatsoever had any Influence upon you. We must look on the measures pursued upon this Occasion to be unavoidable. At the same time We cannot help observing that it is to the great regard the Company have always had to a faithful Observance of their Agreements they have acquired and hitherto preserved a Reputation with the Natives of India We could have wished therefore the Situation of affairs as far would have admitted keeping Terms with Jaffier Ally Cawn that even the least handle for a pretence might not have offered, to prejudiced People to make use of, to throw any Reflections upon this Transaction.

[5.] It is strongly reported that Colonel Caillaud with the Chuta Nabob signed a Paper offering a Reward of Rs. 50,000 or some such Sum to several

Black Persons to assassinate the Shawzada. It is further reported that this Paper was carried to Mr. Amyatt the then Chief of Patna for him to Sign which he refused as a most infamous Measure; it is also added that this very Paper is in the Hands of a Seid in Bengal. We have always had the highest Opinion of Colonel Caillaud and have given many Proofs of Our regard to his Merit and Services. But this is an imputation of so extraordinary and serious a Nature that We think it highly necessary it should be cleared up as well in vindication of Colonel Caillaud's Character as the Honour, good Name and Interest of the Company which are essentially Interested therein. We therefore positively direct that you make the most strict and impartial Enquiry into this Affair and should it be possible that Colonel Caillaud is guilty of such a Crime (which We heartily hope will not be the Case) he is immediately to be dismissed from Our Service and sent to England by the first conveyance that Offers but should he be at Madrass and he proves guilty of what is here laid to his Charge you are to signify these Our Orders to Our President and Council there which are on no pretence to be evaded.

[6.] If Colonel Caillaud should contrary to Our hopes be found Culpable you are to make our Resentment of so high a Crime as publick as possible even to the Shawzada himself, that all the World may know how Jealous We are of the Honour and Reputation of the Company and that We shall always to the utmost of Our Power to[sic] preserve the same unsullied by the severest Resentment against any of Our Agents of whatsoever Rank or Station who shall Violate the same.

[7.] Should any other Europeans either in our Service or residing under our Protection be concerned in or accessory to the Crime imputed to Colonel Caillaud they are also upon being found Guilty in like manner to be sent home immediately & should any Natives of India have been concerned therein they are to be treated with the utmost Severity.

[8.] Mr. Law who was lately taken by Major Carnack being a Person who if he continues in India may be of great Prejudice to the Company it is Our positive Orders [sic] that you send him to England by the first Conveyance. You are to do the same as convenient Opportunities offer by the other Officers who were taken with him.

We are,

Your Loving Friends

Lau. Sullivan/Richd. Warner/John Boyd/Chas.
Cutts/Christr. Burrow/G. Rooke/Hy. Crabb
Boulton/Fredk. Pigou/Tho. Waters/Bourchier
Walton/John Dorrien/Cha. Gough/Timothy
Tullie/Christr. Baron/F. W. Barrington/Will.
Barwell/James Creed.

London,
7th October 1761.

LETTER DATED 23 DECEMBER 1761

Shipping news—aid to west coast of Sumatra—goods for Bengal and other settlements—despatch of soldiers and military stores to India—officers not to proceed to England for redress of grievances—growing hostility with Spain—Dutch complaints against Company's servants.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letter was dated the 7th of October and went by the London packet, a Duplicate whereof you will receive by the ship Tilbury now under dispatch; as we intend to Write fully upon the Affairs of your Presidency by the next Ships We shall now only give you some general Informations and directions in addition to those in our beforementioned Letter.

2. By the London Packet (which did not for want of Convoy and other incidents sail from Spithead until the 18th November), We advised you of the Arrival of the several Ships this season from our Settlements in India & from China to the time of her dispatch, also that the Lord Anson from Bengal Sailed from St. Helena on the 30th July under Convoy of his Majestys ship Lion, but was separated from the Lion in a very hard gale of wind near Fernando Loronha, since when she arrived safe at Spithead on the 5th of November.

3. The ships London, Egmont, Lord Mansfield & Sandwich from Bombay arrived also in safety at Spithead on the 15th of the same month; they sailed in Company from St. Helena on the 11th of September at which time there were no Ships left at that Island.

4. In our beforementioned Letter of the 7th October last you had a List of the Ships taken into the Companys Service for this season, since which the Stormont Capt. Henry Fletcher being upon a Survey found unfit to proceed to India she has been replaced by the Horsendon of 499 tons Captn. William Marter Commander, several of the said Ships being new Ones were not then named and Capt. William Larkins has been appointed to the command of the New Ship in the room of Capt. Gilbert Slater who has resigned; these Alterations together with others as to the time of departure of some of the Ships make it necessary to send you as we do herewith an amended List to which you are referred.

5. The Tilbury Capt. Mainwaring as before observed is now under dispatch, she is consigned first to Fort St. George & from thence to your Presidency with sundry Goods as P. Invoice, when therefore she has discharged her Fort St. George Cargo and landed the Recruits for his Majesty's Forces, she is to be forwarded to Bengal with all convenient dispatch, unless it may be really necessary to detain her for any more important Services

to send her home directly from the Coast, in which case her Bengal Cargo and Packet are to be sent to you by the earliest good conveyances.

6. The Royal Charlotte Capt. John Clements for St. Helena and China could not be ready so soon as intended, and will therefore be dispatched about the end of January.

7. You were informed in our last Letter that the Clinton for Fort St. George and Bengal, the three ships for Fort St. George and China and the four for the West Coast and China are to be dispatched about the beginning of January which will certainly be done unless prevented by unforeseen Accidents the New Ship, Capt. Larkins excepted, which cannot be ready and is three fore to proceed directly to China the beginning of February the like notice having been given to our Presidency of Fort St. George with strong recommendations to take all necessary Measures for their safe Import, and particularly for forwarding the Ships intended for China as well from the West Coast as that Presidency with the utmost expedition and as these Services are most essential ones for the Company's Interest we shall depend upon their being ready in all respects for carrying them into execution accordingly against their arrival, as We shall likewise [depend] upon you for every assistance in your power so far as you may be any ways concerned therein, we have given directions for the Clintons being forwarded to you as soon as possible.

8. The four Fort St. George and Bengal Ships Hardwicke, Walpole, Drake and New Ship Captn. Pearce as was observed in our beforementioned Letter are to be dispatched about the beginning of February, as they are to be laden partly for each Presidency, we give directions by this conveyance to our President & Council of Fort St. George to be in readiness to forward them as soon after their arrival and delivery of their Consignments there as can be conveniently done, or at least their Cargos if they should be obliged to detain any one or more of them for very particular Services.

9. All the beforementioned Ships destined to the Coast and Bay Vizt the Tilbury, Clinton, Hardwicke, Walpole, Drake and New Ship Capt. Pearce, and indeed any others which may happen to be on your side of India the China Ships excepted (which are to be forwarded as before directed) are to be employed and laden home in such manner as may be most convenient and agreeable to the circumstances of our Presidencies and the Investments to be laden on them in order to which you cannot too early concert with them the proper measures. But with respect to the Clinton we recommend and direct that if you have occasion to send a Ship to Bombay with saltpetre or on any other Service to that side of India which may be necessary or advantageous to the Company she is to have the preferences on condition however that she be returned home the same Season from one or other of our Presidencies with a proper Cargo, but to choose from the Coast and Bay; this recommendation you are to take due notice of so

far as relates to your Presidency and you can be any way assisting in carrying our Intentions with respect to the Clinton into execution.

10. The Winchelsea destined from Bombay to Bengal will be dispatched early in February that she may save her Passage. As *Capt. Howe has been recommended to us in an extraordinary manner by the greatest Persons in the Kingdom*, our inclinations are to Indulge him in all respects so far as may be consistent with the Company's Interest, and therefore we have given him the double Voyage from Bombay to Bengal and back again; but if he can be employed from any of our Presidencies on Freight in India so that the Earnings may defray the Demorage, it will fall in with our intentions, and if opportunities offer it may be extended in an equal degree with that of the Godolphin Capt. Hutchinson, and as its our Interest to Oblige those that have Patronized him, his success will give us pleasure, we therefore positively order that no other Ship be so employed to his prejudice; and Directions similar to these are gone to all out Presidencies.

11. The other five Bombay Ships and which are the last of the season it is intended shall have their final Dispatches in all the month of March among these is the Britannia, Capt. Thomas Rous, which is to be the Annual Ship from thence for China in the year 1763.

12. We are now to recommend to you as we do to our other Presidencies agreeable to our method for some time past to send such Ships to China as cannot be dispatched home from our Presidencies, the Cargos of which Ships we would have Amount if possible to Twenty thousand pounds at least, to be consigned to our Council of Supra Cargos at Canton, who have or will have Orders to take Charge of them under the usual denomination of Casual Ships and load and dispatch them for England accordingly.

13. And here it is necessary to take notice that the larger the Remittances are to Canton consistent with the Finances of our several Presidencies the more agreeable & useful they will be, as the China Trade is a certain source of Profit, and considering the present great Demand for Teas here, will stand in need of as large Supplies as can be afforded; In particular we shall expect you will give your best assistance to enable the President & Council at Fort St. George to send to China on ye. Essex, Houghton & Grosvenor ye. full amount at least recommended & directed in our Letter P. London Packet.

14. As the Ships which are employed in the Companys Service this season are taken up on the same Terms and Conditions with those of the last, we have only to refer you to the Charter parties & our several Advices relative to the Ships of last Season & recommend them to your careful attention, particularly with respect to short deliveries and Damages.

15. Should it so unfortunately happen that a Resettlement has not been made upon the West Coast or cannot be made in time for securing the

Soldiers and Consignments sent on the Ships Elizabeth, Harcourt and Horsendon, in such case they are to make the best of their way to Fort St. George in order to deliver their said Consignments to the President and Council there, who are accordingly to cause them to be unladen with all Possible expedition, & then dispatch them to Canton with such a quantity of Treasure and Goods as can be provided for them in time. This provision is principally meant to obviate any disappointment in case we should have no Agents upon the West Coast in consequence of our former Orders.

16. As a further provision to prevent disappointment in case Agents have not been sent (which however we are not willing to suppose), We have ordered the said three ships Elizabeth, Harcourt and Horsendon to proceed first to Batavia for Intelligence and to take in Mr. John Herbert and carry him to the West Coast together with any other of our Servants who are not restrained from acting by being Prisoners on parole or otherways and for want of such any other Persons he shall think fitly qualified, who are to take Charge of and manage our Affairs upon the said Coast provisionally in case no Agents are there from Fort St. George; but if upon the arrival of Mr. Henry upon the West Coast any Agents are there then Mr. Herbert & our other Servants are to take Rank among them according to their standing in our Service.

17. We have given you the beforementioned Notice with respect to the said three West Coast and China Ships that you must give all due and previous assistance towards Treasure or Goods to be sent by them to China in case of their going to Fort St. George as aforesaid, as likewise for your forwarding them in like manner to China if by accident they happen to come to your Presidency.

18. Whatever disability our late Servants upon the West Coast may be under¹ from acting as Prisoners of War, the Factors & Writers sent out the two Seasons preceding this can be under no Restraint of that kind, we shall therefore depend either upon their having been sent to their Stations or that they will be sent from Fort St. George or elsewhere as soon as possible.

19. We shall likewise depend upon our several Presidencies sending thither every necessary our Service may require of Men, Stores of all kinds, especially Military ones, Money and indeed whatever may be requisite for effectually reestablishing & securing our Settlements upon that Coast.

20. As our Presidency of Fort St. George may possibly lay more conveniently for an immediate attention to the West Coast Affairs you are to observe and comply with whatever they shall write to you relative to the assistance which may be required of you on this account. We have given the like directions to Bombay in order that our several Presidencies may cooperate with each other that our Settlements upon the said Coast may be effectually supported.

21. We have given directions to the President & Council of Fort St. George to send Mr. Call to the West Coast or if he cannot go some other able Engineer in his room to fix upon a proper Spot for our principal Settlement and for projecting and erecting the necessary Works & Buildings, a Copy whereof we enclose for your information, and so far as your Presidency may or can have any concern therein for your Assistance.

22. Having in our last Letter given you a general account of our intended Export this season, we are now to inform you in what manner we propose to send that part which is provided for your Presidency :

1326 bales of Cloth, 125 bales of long Ells of twenty pieces each.

300 bales broad Long Ells of ten pieces each and 3 bales of sundry Sorts, together with 300 bales of Cloth for our Presidency of Bombay, all which will be laden on the Tilbury, Walpole, Hardwicke, Drake & New Ship Capt. Pearce.

400 Tons of Copper that is to say 140 of Battery, 150 of Brass, 50 of Manufactured & 60 of the Japan Sortment will be laden on the Tilbury, Clinton, Walpole, Hardwicke, Drake and New Ship Capt. Pearce of which the Tilbury will carry about 85 tons and the other Ships nearly equal proportions.

40 tons of Lead to be laden in equal proportions on the Clinton & New Ship Capt. Pearce & 40 tons of Iron in like manner on the Hardwicke and Drake.

We shall add such Stores as considering all circumstances we judge you will stand in need of in particular we shall send you 300 barrels of Gunpowder but for a more particular Account as well as any Variation which may happen we refer you to the Invoices of the several Ships as they respectively arrive.

23. The Coast and Bay ships as has been before observed being partly laden for Bengal the President & Council of Fort St. George are directed to forward the Consignments for your Presidency with all convenient dispatch.

24. The export to Bombay will be so Considerable as to lay us under the necessity of sending 300 bales for that Presidency by the Ships bound to your side of India, they will be distinguished in the Invoices of the Ships on which they are to be laden, and you are to forward them thither as soon after their arrival as you can together with an exact account of the Invoice Prices.

25. You were informed in our last Letter that we should order our Agents at the Island of Madeira to load 430 Pipes of Wine for the use of our Presidencies of Fort William and Fort St. George, we are now to acquaint you that the said 430 Pipes are to be equally Divided between the two Presidencies.

and we have accordingly given directions for their being shipped in the following manner vizt.

	Fort St. George	Bengal	Total
On the Clinton . . . .	..	50	50
Essex	72	55	127
Houghton	71	55	126
Grosvenor	72	55	127
Pipes	215	215	430

26. The Wine on the Clinton is to be consigned directly for Bengal but as the other three Ships do not proceed to your Presidency, the several other before mentioned Quantities must necessarily be consigned to Fort St. George, but it is our express order to the President & Council there to forward to you as conveyances offer the full quantity of 215 pipes including the 50 pipes by the Clinton and not detain any part thereof as has been too frequently the case in former Consignments of this Article.

27. As our said Agents will distinguish in the Invoices the particulars of the Cost and Charges of the wine intended for you which they are to lade on the before mentioned Ships Houghton, Essex and Grosvenor, the President and Council of Fort St. George are to send to you an exact Account thereof that you may have the necessary information to govern yourselves in the disposal of it.

28. You are to cause a careful Survey to be made upon the several parcels of Wine and give us an account how they turn out as to quality and Leakage and whether the latter is more or less than usual; whether owing to bad Casks, ill-Stowage, Embezzlement, or any other Causes for which either our said Agents or the Owners of the Ships ought properly to be answerable; as to the Quality we hope to be informed it is very good the Wines having been purchased a considerable time and in the most favourable parts of the Year for laying in the best ye. Island produced.

29. The situation of the Companys Affairs requires every advantage to be taken that can produce a Profit and unless we can find it as well worth while to send Madeira Wine to India as other Merchandize we must discontinue such Consignments. If therefore *you expect any future Supplies we positively direct that no Madeira wine be distributed to the President, the Council or any other Persons whatsoever without their paying for it*, but that it be disposed of in the following manner vizt. you are to set apart so many Pipes for the use of our Covenant & Military Servants as you shall think sufficient and make a Division thereof in such manner and proportions among them as You judge reasonable and proper which is accordingly to be delivered in every Persons paying for the same the full amount, of the Prime Cost including all Charges together with an Advance thereon of 20 p Cent at least; all the rest of the Wine is to be sold at public Sale for the most it will fetch putting it up at 20 p Cent advance upon the Prime Cost and Charges.

30. We shall send no Military Stores this Season either to Fort St. George or Fort William except such few Articles as will appear in the Invoices, being satisfied from what is mention'd in the President and Council's Letters of the first named Place, that the Stores taken at Pondicherry will be sufficient to supply both Presidencies; We have in consequence of such notification given directions for their forwarding to you whatever can be spared and which you are to remind them of whenever it may be necessary, your other Indents are in general as fully complied with as the Tonnage for your side of India will admit of.

31. All the Barrels of Gunpowder will be bound with Copper Hoops, the Weight and Cost of which will be separately Invoiced, & the Copper is to be disposed of accordingly as Merchandize, you are to take notice also that for the future the Company's mark will be branded on each Barrel before it is filled.

32. In our last Letter we informed you we should send to the West Coast ten Chests of Treasure some Iron, Stores & Necessaries the particulars of which could not then be ascertained. we are now to acquaint you that we shall consign thither the said ten Chests on the three China ships which are first to call there as has been already mention'd as also Sundry Goods & Stores the most material Articles whereof are 100 tons of Iron, 10 tons of Steel, 28 tons of Sheet & Pig Lead, 6 tons of Tin, 33 tons of Ironmongers Ware, 20 tons of Beef and Pork, 30 tons of Flour, 200 barrels of Gunpowder. We intend also to send thither one hundred Military Recruits. We have thought this information necessary, that you may regulate the Supplies to be sent to Our Settlements on the West Coast accordingly.

33. By the accounts we have received from the Public Offices since our last Letter we are enabled to be more particular with respect to the Government Stores intended to be sent to India this season; we are now to acquaint you they will consist of the following Articles vizt.

	Tons
Naval Stores about	497
Victualling Stores	696
Cloathing for Coll. Drapers Battalion . . .	28
Coll. Coote's do.	25
Coll. Monson's do.	27
Coll. Morris's do.	18
The several Artillery Companies	5
	<hr/>
	1,296

34. The said Stores will be sent to India in the following manner vizt. Two thirds of the Naval & Victualling Stores upon the Nine Ships bound to Fort St. George in nearly equal proportions on each Ship, the remaining one Third in like manner will be laden on the Bombay Ships.

35. The Cloathing for the Colonel Drapers, Cootes & Monson's Battalions as also for the Artillery Company upon the Coast of Choromandel will go in the ships Hardwicke, Walpole & Drake, that for Coll. Morris's Battalion as also for the Three other Artillery Companies will be sent in the Bombay Ships.

36. Should any of His Majesty's Sea or Land Forces be in Bengal you are to give the proper Officers notice of the beforemention'd Disposition, and should any part of such Stores or Cloathing be casually imported with you the necessary care is to be taken that they be deliver'd or forwarded for the Services they are intended for.

37. The Government having determined to send about 670 Soldiers to India this season, part thereof being Recruits for Coll. Drapers Battalion embark on the Tilbury for Fort St. George, the others it is intended shall proceed on the rest of the Ships which are consigned first to that Presidency.

38. In case any of the said Ships shall arrive at & deliver any of the said Recruits at Fort William, you are upon their arrival to make a particular enquiry how they have been used in the Voyage and inform us as we are determined to shew a due resentment for any misbehaviour of the Commanders or Officers towards them. Their passage is to be paid by us in England. You have therefore nothing more to discharge than the usual Allowance to the Surgeons if it appears to you they have taken the proper care of them in the Voyage.

39. Mr. Ralph Leycester a Factor upon the Bengal establishment who came home last year with your leave on account of his ill State of Health having recovered the same & requested us that he may return to his Station, we have complied with his request and accordingly direct that upon his arrival at Fort William to take Rank in the same manner as if he had not come to England, and agreeable to the orders we gave in our General Letter of the 23d March 1759.

40. We have appointed the following named nine young Gentlemen to be Writers upon the Bengal establishment who are to take Rank in the order they are here placed vizt. George Hurst, Charles Bentley, Edward Bates, Charles Stuart, Robert Palk, William Barton, Nathaniel Bateman, Edwd. Croke and Henry Cottrell who will proceed to their Stations on the Ships of this season as will appear by the Lists of Passengers in their respective Packets.

41. The sending a List of the passengers in the packet of such ship on which they proceed is a method we shall continue for the future.

42. We shall send you as usual a List of all such Persons who have our leave to proceed to India as Free Merch[ants] in the Seafaring way or otherways.

43. Wootton Braham had our leave to proceed last season to his Friends at Fort Marlborough, We have now thought proper to appoint him a Writer

upon that Establishment if the Governour and Council or our Agents there find him qualified for that Station. If therefore he shall happen to be at your Presidency you are to give him notice to proceed to the West Coast accordingly.

44. We have appointed the following Persons to be Cadets in our Military upon the Bengal Establishment who are to take Rank in the order we name them and are to be preferred accordingly if they behave well vizt. John Affleck, Robert Davidson, Caesar Flaction, Samuel Blake, Rowland Burslem, Jacob Camack and John James Prichard for the Ships they proceed in you are referred to the Lists of Passengers in the several Packets.

45. Although the Conduct of the Captains Robert Campbell, Francis Flaction & Bryan Scottney in throwing up the Service was precipitate and on that account not to be justified, yet considering they had all of them behaved in other respects to satisfaction, we have thought proper to readmit them into our Military Service upon the Bengal Establishment, but without prejudice to the Rank of such Captains who have acted there since their Resignation Capt. Scottney being now as we suppose in Bengal under Free Merchants' Covenants is to be acquainted with the Terms on which he may reassume the Service; and we direct that the said Capts. Campbell & Flaction do succeed in the order they are here named to the first Companies which shall become vacant after their arrival, and that the said Capt. Scottney (if he agrees to the Terms) do succeed to the Command of such Company as shall become vacant after the Captains Campbell and Flaction shall have been promoted as beforementioned. And we further direct that until such Vacancies happen they be allowed Captain's Pay & be employed in such manner as you shall think fit; the Capt. Campbell and Flaction's Pay is to commence upon their arrival in Bengal & Capt. Scottney's from the receipt of this letter.

46. Officers throwing up their Commissions in order for their coming to England to make their Applications to us for redress of Grievances either real or imaginary, and to be readmitted into the Service is the occasion of infinite difficulty and trouble and therefore must as much as possible be prevented in order to which we direct that if any Officer apprehends he is aggrieved he must lay his Case before you for your determination, which is to be the result of a candid & impartial Enquiry; but if there should be any thing therein of such nature as cannot be determined by you such case in all its circumstances must be represented & referred to our decision. In the meantime he must continue in the Service if you think proper, or at least stay in India until our directions can be sent thereon, for if he comes to England we shall look upon his Resignation as an effectual Bar against his being employed again. You are to give publick notice of these directions from time to time to all our Officers that they may know what they are to trust to.

47. The Sale of the Bengal Goods is so lately over that we cannot by this conveyance send you a List of Investment to be made at your Presidency with the necessary Observations and directions; it must therefore be

deferred until the dispatch of the next ships; however as you know in general the proper Sortments of Goods we shall depend upon your proceeding on this very interesting branch of our Affairs with the utmost care and diligence that sufficient quantities may be ready in time for giving our Shipping an early Dispatch. You may well form a judgment from the number of Ships which are to be returned home from the other Presidencies as well as yours what Saltpetre will be wanting, we shall therefore depend upon your making a necessary and timely provision for the whole, and sending the proper Quantities to Fort St. George and Bombay by every good conveyance.

48. Altho Overtures were made to His Majesty & the King of Prussia by the several Belligerent Powers in order to a general Pacification, for which purpose a Congress was appointed (as you have been before informed) & Propositions were made to His Majesty by France for a particular Peace with that Crown, which were followed by an actual Negotiation, yet that Congress hath not hitherto taken place & the Negotiation with France is entirely broken off, Mr. Stanley the British Minister at the Court of France being returned to England and Mr. Bussy, the French Minister gone back to France. In the course of the said Negotiation some Claims have been made by the Court of Spain highly repugnant to the Interest of this Nation, on which account & from the apparent Armaments making in Spain together with several suspicious Circumstances in their late Conduct there is too much reason to apprehend that a War will break out with that Nation. In the meantime Preparations are making to carry on the War even if Spain should engage against us in the most effectual manner for the Interest and Advantage of these Kingdoms as the only means that can be productive of a good Peace. For your more particular information as to the Sentiments and Resolutions of His Majesty and the Houses of Lords and Commons in the present Situation of Affairs we send you his Majesty's speech on opening the Parliament, and the Addresses thereupon of both Houses.

49. The Earl of Bute by his Majestys command has informed us that the Dutch Company Complain of many Insults and abuses recently committed by our Agents in Bengal, we therefore positively direct that you take the greatest care not to give the said Company's Agents any just cause for Complaints, & We earnestly recommend it to you to keep and preserve a strict Harmony with them, consistent with the good Faith subsisting between the two Nations.

We are,

Your loving Friends,

Lau. Sullivan/Thos. Rous/John Boyd/W.
Thornton/Richd. Warner/Bourchier Walton/
G. Rooke/John Harrison/Richd. Seward/John
Dorrien/F. W. Barrington/Chas. Cutts/Will.
Barwell/Timothy Tullie/Christr. Baron/Richd.
Smith/Fredk. Pigou/Tho. Waters/Hy. Crabb
Boulton.

London,
23rd December, 1761.

LETTER DATED 27 JANUARY 1762

Declaration of war with Spain—strained relations with the Dutch.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We take the opportunity by this Ship the Clinton to send you a Tripllicate of our letter which went by the London Packet under date of the 30th of September with a Postscript of the 7th of October, also a Duplicate of the letter dated the 23d December by the Tilbury, As we shall write to you fully by the latter Ships bound to Bengal, we are now only to advise you, That

2. The Clinton and Essex are now under dispatch, the first to Fort St. George and your Presidency, the other for Fort St. George and China, both of them being to call first at Madeira to take in their quotas of Wine as mentioned in our Letter of the 23rd of December.

3. For the Goods and Wine consigned to you on the Clinton you are referred to the Invoices and Bills of Lading from hence, and those you will receive from our Correspondents at Madeira.

4. You were informed by our last Letter that the Negotiation for a Peace between Great Britain and France was entirely broken off, it was therein also intimated that there was too much reason to apprehend a War would break out with Spain, this Event accordingly happened for the 4th of January. War was declared in London against the King of Spain, the motives for this measure will appear by His Majesty's Declaration dated at St. James's the 2nd of the same month which you will herewith receive.

5. You are accordingly to cause the said Declaration to be proclaimed at Fort William and it's Dependencies with the usual Solemnities on such an occasion.

6. This information must put you on your Guard and [you must] take all proper measures for the Security of Our Navigation against any attempts of this new Enemy in particular; you must give the necessary Orders and Cautions to the Commanders of all our Homeward bound Ships to be Well on their Guard and avoid touching at any Spanish Ports during the whole course of their Voyage.

7. It is also necessary to inform you that Affairs with the Dutch Nation are at present so critically circumstanced that we should not be surprized if they take some unjustifiable measures to our prejudice in the East Indies

particularly in Bengal, You therefore cannot be too watchful in guarding against these our apprehensions.

We are,
Your loving Friends,

Lau. Sullivan/Thos. Rous/John Harrison/
Cha. Gough/Fredk. Pigou/Richd. Seward/G.
Rooke/W. Thornton/Bourchier Walton/Heny.
Savage/Will. Barwell/Timothy Tullie/F. W.
Barrington/Richd. Warner/Christr. Baron/
Richd. Smith/Tho. Waters/S. Harrison/Hy.
Crabb Boulton/John Dorrien.

London,
27th January 1762.

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LETTER DATED 19 FEBRUARY 1762

Directions regarding French prisoners of war—destination of ships not to be altered unless absolutely necessary—appointment of Claude De La Porte for improving investment—declaration of war against Spain—capture of a French ship—concern over expenses on Shah Alam—observations on Mir Jafar's obligations—proposed withdrawal of factory at Haingyyi Island—purchase of buildings for official use—criticised trade by Company's servants in salt and betel-nut prohibited—allowances and perquisites of the Governor—reduction in military expenses urged—one year's notice for quitting service essential—all important matters to be placed before Fort William Board—Company's servants not to send to England private despatches on Company's transactions in India—unsatisfactory state of accounts of Mir Jafar's donation—instructions about restitution claims—authority of Board as court of appeal—despatch of recruits for His Majesty's forces—transmission of papers relating to the Dutch.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1*. The Letters we have writ to you this Season bear date[s] as follow;
vizt the 30th September 1761, to which is added a Postscript of the 7th
of the following month.

23rd December and
27th of January 1762.

2. Having in those Letters given you many directions and advices necessary for your information and guidance in the conduct of our Affairs we shall now add such others as occur; but the principal intent of this Letter is to make such Observations upon your several Advices received in the course of last year, as have not yet been remarked upon. All which are ranged under the usual heads.

*To avoid repetition marginal summaries appearing in some of the paragraphs have been deleted.

First of Shipping

3. The President and Council of Fort St. George have insisted upon the *Necessity of sending as many of the French Prisoners to Europe as possible*. We are very sensible of the expediency of that measure, but at the same time as we cannot see with unconcern the heavy Expences which fell upon us on this Account. We have told them that, tho' it is of great importance the Officers in particular should be sent away, yet the Allowance to the Captains of the Ships should be borne by the Officers themselves if they are in a condition to pay it; but in all Events no more is to be allowed than Thirty pounds for the Fresh Provisions and Accommodation of each Commission Officer. As to the rest of the Officers, and Private Men they are to make the most reasonable Terms they can for their Passage; many of the latter it is apprehended are not French Men. It is therefore recommended to them in order to save the Expence of their passage to take them into Our Service if they think it may be safely done. We have added that they have indulged the French Officers, many of them at least, in bringing with them a number of Servants & large quantities of Baggage, which they are in future not to allow of, but to take care that no more Servants or Baggage be permitted than shall be really necessary. The above directions are signified to you for your guidance in case of your sending any French Prisoners to Europe.

4. If you are really in want of Pilot Sloops & small Vessels to send with Dispatches and for other Services, we must acquiesce with your desiring the President and Council of Bombay to build the four Schooners you mention; but as among other great Expences of your Presidency, those of the Marine are very Considerable, the utmost care must be taken to keep them within the most reasonable bounds.

5. We agree with you that *Captain George Enye* of the Tartar Sloop his arrival with the News of the Capture of Pondicherry must be very agreeable. But we think the Present you made him on this account, considering the present Circumstances of the Company, was too much. It is true you say it was also for much trouble he had in the Service, but it does not appear what that Trouble was. We are never ungrateful, but then We expect Gratuities whenever they are really necessary bare [bear] a reasonable proportion to the Services performed, and this in Extraordinary Cases only.

6. The protesting against the Captains Mc.Cleod and Quicke for refusing to leave the River after their Dispatches were delivered, and some other irregularities you mention was right, and in all Cases of Misbehaviour the like measures must be taken for our information with respect to the said two Captains if they do not give good reasons for their said behaviour we shall take all proper notice of it.

7. We directed that the Lord Anson should be sent from Bengal to Bombay and we meant thereby an advantage to Capt. Chick. We find however that the Lord Mansfield, Capt. Mc. Cleod was sent in her stead. It is true there are some Circumstances with respect to the Condition of the Lord Anson which

appear to have some weight for your not Sending her to Bombay, but We must insist upon it that you do not on any future occasions alter our Destination of Shipping without a real & absolute Necessity for so doing.

Secondly of Goods from Europe, or from one Part of India to another

8. Having already given you a general account of our Exports to all part by the Ships of this Season, and in particular to your Presidency, we have only to refer you to the several Ships Invoices as they arrive for your more certain informations. As we send no Treasure for the reasons mention'd in our last Letters we must and shall in a great measure depend upon you for furnishing a sufficient Quantity for our China Trade as well as assisting our other Presidencies if they shall be in want of your Assistance.

9. As our Consignments consist entirely in Goods we are in hopes the Troubles in the Country will have so far subsided as to admit of Advantageous Sales which we are concern'd to observe has not been the case for some time past. We shall depend upon your best endeavours to Serve us in this very material Branch of Affairs, by disposing of as much as you can in Bengal or sending such proportions to the other Presidencies as may be most advantageous to the Company.

10. When we contract for Brass and Iron Ordnance to be sent to Bengal we shall take due notice of the observations you make upon those which have been already sent you.

11. We shall depend upon your *putting the Mint* upon such a *footing* as will be *most Advantageous to the Company* and as nearly agreeable to our Orders as may be. For this purpose you will get *the most able Assistants you can, particularly in the art of Assaying*. We imagine such persons are not difficult to be found in Bengal, and who may be of great use if well looked after, especially under the care and inspection of Mr. Anselmn Beaumont who was recommended last year to be our Mint Master.

12. Our Accountant having made some Remarks upon the Coins transmitted to us in the course of last season they are now sent for your Information and guidance.

13. We cannot help thinking that your Merchants have not made an accurate Trial of the *Sample of Cornish Tin* we sent you, which they say, upon examination was found inferior to the Eastern Tin both in quality and convenience of being Worked, and that it would bring no more than C. Rups. 18-8 P. F. Maund¹, whilst that from the East sold at Rs. 20. Because the same season we sent Samples to our President and Council of Bombay, who have given us a very different & satisfactory account, who inform us that a considerable quantity of such Tin will find a vend Annually at that Presidency and have accordingly Indented for eighty seven Tons, and add that on Trial it proved full as good as the Tin that comes to that side of India from Siam & the Malay Coasts; and at Surat they esteem it rather Better & will

fetch as good a Price as that Tin usually does. We cannot procure any Tin in time for the ships of this season, but when we send any we shall expect you will be more accurate in your Examination and that you will use your best endeavours to promote the Vend of this Article, not only as it may introduce a valuable branch of Trade to the Company, but also on its being a National Object.

Thirdly of Investment

14. We now send agreeable to annual custom List of the Investment to be made at your Presidency the ensuing Season with the necessary Remarks and Directions which you are carefully to observe.

15. Your utmost endeavours must be exerted for making as large a provision of Goods as your Circumstances will admit of; the necessity of this injunction is too obvious to want explanation, for without plentiful Returns it is impossible for the Company to provide the necessary Exports and defray the immense Expences the War with France and the various Troubles in India have drawn upon us.

16. You will also take care to provide a sufficient Quantity of Salt Petre as well for the Ships to be dispatched from Bengal as our other Presidencies and you are to lade such surplus Quantities on each Ship as may be consistent with sending home the more valuable Parts of your Investments and the putting every Ship upon as equal a footing in point of Tonnage as possible.

17. The Goods received this season from your Presidency by the ships Latham, Onslow and Royal Duke (those by the Lord Anson not being in time to be yet sold) [are] in general better in quality than usual, especially the Cossacs however as many are still defective and may with due care & attention be very much improved. We have engaged Mr. Claude De la Porte to proceed to you in the ship Hardwicke, who is a perfect Judge of the nature and quality of all kinds of Bengal Goods fit for Europe, having had many years Experience & long frequented the Sales of the various Nations trading to the East Indies, which enables him to point out those Qualities best approved of. We hope therefore by his assistance great advantages may accrue to our Trade in particular from those Countries lately acquired and put us in a condition to supply the different European Markets with Sortments suitable to them, and We earnestly recommend it to you to aid Mr. De la Porte with all necessary advice & Instructions to make the best use of his knowledge & Abilities & do all in your power to answer our intentions of sending him.

18. Mr. De la Porte is to act under your direction & is to stay in India during our pleasure. He is to be allowed Two hundred pounds a year to commence from his Arrival in Bengal to be paid quarterly, which said Allowance is to be in full for Salary, Diet, Lodging and Expences of whatsoever kind, except those which may be necessarily incurred by going from place to place to make discovery of New Manufactures or giving Instructions for the Improvement of old Ones, which said Expences (being reasonable) you are to discharge

on his certifying the particulars under his hand & making Oath to the Truth thereof if required & of which an account is to be transmitted to us.

19. We have paid him Fifty pounds to defray the Charges of his Passage, which Sum is not to be considered as any part of the above Allowance of Two hundred pounds a year.

20. Mr. De la Porte has entered into Covenants with us not to carry on any Trade on his own Account, nor is he to [enter into the] Service of any other European Nation on any pretence whatsoever under the penalty of £1000 as you will see by the said Covenants, Copy whereof we transmit in the Hardwicke's packet for your information.

21. We observe the pains Mr. Wilder has taken to examine into & regulate the Raw Silk Investment & are satisfied that by his continuing some time longer in Bengal he will more effectually answer the design of our sending him out. On this account we dispense with his proceeding to China as he can be of little Service in regulating that Silk Investment, especially at this time, and do accordingly permit him to Continue in Bengal for Two years from the time of the Expiration of his contract under the Terms and Conditions of his said Contract which bears date the 25th March 1757, and the orders and directions we gave respecting him in our General Letter of that day. As Mr. Wilder's contracted time of five Years expires on the 25th March 1762, we shall have the Advantage of his Service for the said additional Two years and it will give him sufficient time to settle his own private Concerns. He is therefore to return to England by the 25th March 1764, or upon the first Ship which sails after that time, when his Annuity & all other Appointments are to Cease.

22. During Mr. Wilder's continuance in Bengal as aforesaid he is to be indulged in all the Privileges of Trade which our Covenant Servants enjoy. But he is not upon any account whatsoever to Trade to have any Dealings in Raw Silk either for himself or others which you are to take care is strictly observed by him.

23. In packing the Bales at Bombay Screws of a particular construction, introduced by the late Mr. Lamb are made use of to good effect, and as the like may be of great service for packing the Bales at your Presidency tight and close, you are to write to the President & Council to send you from thence a Sett o[f?] two or more, as you may want them. We shall also in our next Letters to Bombay give directions accordingly. Your own discretion will lead you to the use of them: for Coarse Goods they will undoubtedly be proper, though they may not for fine ones.

24. We send you by this conveyance an account of Pieces Wanting in the Bales received the last Season from your Presidency. As the Bales appeared tight and had not been Opened since they were packed, the Embezzlements might have happened in your Warehouse. You are therefore to cause a very particular Enquiry to be made into this Affair & find out if possible the

persons who have been culpable. We must add that you are to make such Regulations as may prevent any thing of this kind happening again, as we shall look upon the Warehouse keeper & whoever else are employed in the Warehouse to be answerable for such Embezzlements.

Fourthly of the Trade of India, transactions relative to the European Powers, Country Government &ca.

25. You were informed by our last letter that the Negotiation for a Peace between Great Britain & France was entirely broken off. It was therein also intimated that there was too much reason to apprehend a War would break out with Spain. This event accordingly happened for on the 4th January War was declared in London against the King of Spain. The motives for this measure will appear by His Majesty's Declaration dated at St. James's the 2nd of the same month, which you will herewith receive.

26. You are accordingly to cause ye said Declaration to be proclaimed at Fort William & all its Dependencies with the usual Solemnities on such an occasion.

27. This information must put you upon your guard & [you must take all proper Measures for the Security of our Navigation against any attempts of this New Enemy; in particular you must give the necessary Orders and Cautions to the Commanders of all our Homeward bound Ships to be well on their guard and avoid touching at any Spanish Ports during the whole course of their Voyage.

28. His Majesty's Frigate Venus arrived at Plymouth from a Cruize on the 3rd of January & brought in la Boulogne of and for Port l'Orient from the Isle of France laden with Coffee and Pepper which she took, the 27th of December about sixty Leagues to the Westward after an hours Engagement, in which the Venus had one man killed & five or six Wounded. She mounts 20 Guns & carried 140 Men, had been about three Months from the Isle of France & left the French Squadron there. At present we have not learnt any further particulars.

29. The Count *d'Estaing* was a passenger in the said Ship & is also brought into Plymouth. As this Officer *broke his Parole* by taking and destroying our Settlements at *Gombroon* & upon the West Coast of Sumatra, at a time when he was still a Prisoner of War, we have laid before his Majesty a true state of the case, in order for their taking such measures with respect to the said Officer as His Majesty shall think proper. The mischief this man has done must be caution not to trust any Officer of consequence in future upon his Parole, but send him to England directly by the first of the Company's ships that sail.

30. In our Letter of the 30th September last we gave you our sentiments in general upon the late Revolutions in Bengal, since which we are further informed of the Shawzada's defeat, his throwing himself upon you for

Protection & the immense Expence of his Maintenance out of the Company's Money, of no less than One thousand Rupees a day & of some views of placing him upon the Throne of Delly. It is alledged indeed that care will be taken that the Nabob Defrays the said daily Expence, which we hope will be the case, or at least that some other certain means be fixed upon to Reimburse that Expence & all other Expences on his account. Upon a view of the frequent Revolutions, the great Designs proposed to be executed, & the consequent Heavy Expences too justly to be apprehended, We are filled with the utmost anxiety lest the Events should turn out to the prejudice of Our Affairs, and in particular the Scheme of assisting the Shawzada we hope has been well Considered, & if entered upon, carried on with that prudence as may leave no room to impeach your Conduct.

31. It is from a quiet situation of Affairs only in Bengal that we can hope to have the benefit of the large Revenues we are at present in possession of; a permanent Tranquility therefore must be the constant object in view, for, extensive as our Territories and Revenues are, they must be Exhausted by the Army, which, by your Treaty with the present Nabob, is to be paid out of the produce of them.

32. Nothing but the most unavoidable necessity (which you assert was the case) ought to have induced you to give up the real Security you were possessed of from the Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan for the Money owing from him to the Company, we mean the Lands Mortgaged to us on that account, for his Promise to make good the Balance at several Monthly Payments until the whole was discharged, which we observe, amounting to Rupees 16,07,512-4-8 was extremely precarious. And we are sorry to find that in fact upon his removal that Debt remained and the only Security we had for it was some Jewels valued by him at Twelve Laaks & an half, but which you imagined would not, when sold, produce above half that sum. This Instance will evince how cautious, then, you ought at all times to be in parting with real and substantial Securities for Promises, however strongly made. It is some consolation however to find that the present Nabob has engaged to make good the Balance, agreeable to the several monthly Payments stipulated with Jaffier Ally Khan. We shall accordingly expect to hear by your next advices the Whole has been recovered.

33. The Countries granted to the Company by the Treaty with the present Nabob you say will in time of Peace under proper Regulations produce an annual Revenue of Fifty Laaks of Rupees & upwards. This is a noble Object and well worth your utmost care and attention; more especially at this time when our wants are so great and our Expences so heavy. We shall accordingly depend upon your taking such prudent measures as may secure to us the quiet possession of those Territories and the Collection of Revenues to as large an amount as may be consi[stent] with the ability of the Inhabitants and that hum[ane] lenity which we would always have observed on such occasions.]

34. It gives us pleasure to observe that the *King of the Burmars*^a who caused our people at the Negrais to be so cruelly Massacred is since Dead, and succeeded by his son who seems to be of a more friendly & humane Disposition. However the intention of Withdrawing all the remaining People and Effects from thence is a right measure, especially as the Country is so much involved in Troubles as you represent it. We have reason to think the late King would not have proceeded to such a cruel extremity without some Provocations; the President & Council of Fort St. George under whose more immediate cognizance the Affairs of that Country fall, appear by their last advices to be making some Enquiries into the Causes of the King's Indignation against the English. We therefore defer giving our Sentiments thereon until we have the final result of those enquiries. We cannot omit however observing that it has been alledged the People belonging to some of the Country ships had taken part with the Peguers and behaved in a Hostile and Violent manner; We hope by this time our said President & Council have gone thro' the Enquiry and if they find any truth in this allegation that the Persons concerned have been duly censured, for we will never suffer our Affairs to be embroiled by the indiscretions and bad conduct of Private persons residing in India under our protection. You will be informed from Fort St. George whether any Persons belonging to Calcutta have been any way Guilty in this Affair, and we shall expect you will resent this behaviour as it shall appear to deserve.

Fifthly of Fortifications, Buildings & Revenues

35. When we gave our sentiments and directions upon the Fortifications and Works at Fort William in our Letter of the 13th of March last we had only the idea of Mr. Brohier's having projected Plans of such an Extensive nature as run into immense & unnecessary Expences, not imagining he would have acted the unfaithful part which has been so evidently proved upon him; but since we are so liable to Impositions in this Branch of our Affairs, it is incumbent on you to take the utmost care to prevent them, and to see that no other Works are carried on than shall be really & absolutely necessary, agreeable to the directions in our said Letter of the 13th of March, which are so full as to need no further addition.

36. With respect to the *Frauds* committed by Mr. Brohier and others employed on the Works, we have been very full in our Letter of the 30th September last and have therefore nothing more to add here than to enforce our orders for your making the Enquiries therein mentioned with the greatest diligence and strictness, and recovering as much more of what we have been Defrauded as is possible to be done.

37. From the character you give of Mr. Thomas Amphlett we think it a lucky circumstance that he was able to be going on with the Fortifications upon Brohier's detection, but as a more perfect Knowledge than he can possibly be master of will be necessary [to] compleat so great a Work, we repeat our Orders to the President & Council of Bombay to send,

without fail, and [as] soon as possible Mr. James Mace to you, according to our original intentions, who is to act under your Direction Chief Engineer of your Presidency. Mr. Amphlett is to be his Assistant & have all the Encouragement his Service merit. You are by the first opportunities to inform the President and Council of Bombay of our Orders for sending Mr. Mace to you and insist upon their being forthwith complied with.

38. It is too common for Engineers to be making such variations in the Plans of those who have preceded them as to greatly enhance the Charges and perhaps not make any material Amendments. We make this observation that the proper use may be made of it upon Mr. Mace's arrival; for as your Works, even with the utmost care and attention, will, before they are compleated, be a constant & excessive Drain out of our Estate. No new Projects are to be introduced without your most serious consideration, and especially if accompanied with additional Expence.

39. We shall depend upon Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted having proceeded to Bombay agreeable to the orders in our letter of the 1st April 1760, and to what you have mentioned in Answer thereto in your letter of the 16th January 1761.

40. In our letter of the 13th of March last we took notice & complained of the *Expences* we were charged with *for extra Allowances for House Rent* & the Purchases of several others. We are sorry to observe you are continuing the same Measures; for, however sanguine you may be in imagining our New acquired Revenues may answer almost every Expence, we know too well how precarious they are, & that taking in all considerations no extraordinary Expences can be sustained by the Company. Whether the Renting the House lately possessed by Col. Clive for a Custom House instead of the Old one you sold for CRs. 8,051 as being out of Repair was really necessary does not appear to our satisfaction. Neither does your purchasing a House of Mr. Holmes's Attorneys at the rate of CRs. 20,000 for the Commanding Officer of our Troops which we think by [to be ?] much too large an addition to the Majors Allowances, but most certainly the purchasing Mr. Frankland's House for, as you mention, the Refreshment of the Governour when the multiplicity of Business will permit him to leave the Town at the expence of A. Rups 10,000, is, notwithstanding your allegation to the contrary, a Superfluous Charge, & must as in reason it ought, be borne by the Governour at his own Private Expence; this is the more necessary and reasonable since the Noble Appointments settled upon the Governor by our directions last season, which are intended to take in all Expences he may be put to for Convenience on the Company's account.

41. It is reasonable the President should be upon the same footing as those of Fort St. George and Bombay with respect to Consignments of Coral and Silver on private Account, and therefore as the Proprietors of those Articles enter into Bonds to pay two P Cent Commission thereon to the President we do agree to his receiving such Commission.

42. In answer to the request you make for direction as to the Import Duty on Copper bought at the Company's Sales at Madrass, we say, you did right in levying the Import Duty of Four P Cent on such Copper as on other Goods Imported; And you must continue to do so. It can be no hardship on the Proprietor, for, as he knows the duty will be levied, he will give a Price for it accordingly at Madras. And it is equal to us whether the Profit [proceeded] from an advance on the Sale or upon receipt of the Duty.

43. By the directions we gave in our letter of the 1st of April 1760 We meant that the Nabob should not be defrauded of his Duties by an abuse of the Dusticks, nor Private Traders oppressed, but as it appeared by your advices of the 16th January 1761, that y[ou]r Farming the Duties of the Nabob and the other methods we had pointed out are not practicable, We must therefore acquiesce in their not being carried into execution. At the same time we repeat & enforce what we mentioned in our said Letter that in all events the Dusticks are to be upon such a just footing as to secure the Government their Duties & enable the Merchant to pay our Customs.

44. It has been intimated that some of our late Servants had Engrossed the Sale of Beetle & Salt to their own great emolument, but highly prejudicial to the Interest of the Nabob. As such Measures tend greatly to the embroiling our Affairs as well as being injurious to the Community We enjoin you to take the utmost Care that neither our Servants or any Persons residing under our protection have any Concern in such Farm for the future.

Sixthly and Seventhly of Covenant and Military Servants and Accounts

45. With respect to an application made to us by President Vansittart wherein he submits it to our Consideration whether he might not be Indulged with the additional Allowance of One thousand pounds a year which President Clive had by our directions: You will observe Mr. Vansittart's request has been anticipated by the noble Appointments we settled upon him by our letter of the 13th March last Pars. 59-138 which Appointments must be understood to include the said £1000 a year as well as all other Emoluments, appointments & Allowances whatsoever.

46. We are very sensible of the importance of giving all due *Encouragement to our Servants to make themselves Masters of the Country Languages*; but surely the annexing a Salary of Three hundred Rupees a month to the Post of Translator is too large an Allowance, especially as it is given to one of our Servants in the rank of a Writer only vizt. Mr. Charles Rogers, who, tho' we trust from your account is a very deserving young Man, yet as we think the Allowance in general too great, we shall leave it to you to make a reasonable abatement therein.

47. Had not so many of our Servants in superior Stations thrwn up the Service in the manner they did, there would have been no occasion for our sending Persons in the rank of Factors; but you know very well it was a case

of necessity, & as such the measure was taken. Your animadversions thereupon are therefore indecent & improper, especially as some among you (though not avowed in the General Letter) have, in their private Capacities solicited for introducing Persons who reside in India into the Service in prejudice to others. We are well pleased to hear the Gentlemen who have been Superseded by the beforementioned Factors behave to your Satisfaction, if they continue so to do they may depend upon our having a due regard to their respective Services.

48. Although we are always averse to the superseding of Officers without very good reasons being given, yet as you have thought proper to give a Majority to Captn. Martin Yorke upon the particular recommendation of Col. Caillaud, We must suppose that you were fully satisfied he was the best qualified for that Post. Upon this consideration only We acquiesce with your said Appointment, and from Captain Fischer's candid Behaviour on this occasion we make no doubt of his continuing to serve the Company with cheerfulness. With respect to Capt. Carstairs it was his misfortune to arrive after the appointment of Major Yorke & therefore as he was superseded by this Accident he is to be content; but you may assure him from us we shall always have a regard for his good Services.

49. Our Military Expences are so large, and to all appearance encreasing, that no Innovations should be introduced without an absolute necessity. If the appointment of an Additional Field Officer was really under this circumstance we must submit to it, but you are to take notice that you are to take the first proper & favourable opportunity of reverting to the constant method of having One Major only upon your Establishment.

50. We find you have formed two *Troops of European Horse* and a *Part of Hussars* upon Col. Caillaud's representing the absolute necessity of such a Corps of Cavalry. As this is *heavy addition to our Military Expences* we hope the measure was not undertaken without, what is before observed, an absolute necessity. However since it is raised we earnestly recommend the greatest care may be taken to keep the Expences within the limits mention'd in your Consultations of the 22nd September 1760 and the moment when Circumstances will safely admit of it you are to reduce the whole Corps or at least a part of it.

51. Upon forming the said Corps of Cavalry, we observe, you appointed Mr. Carvalho a Captain-Lieutenant therein, which was the occasion of a *Memorial* from Thirty-three Subaltern Officers complaining of that Promotion being made to their Prejudice. As Mr. Carvalho does not appear to have been upon the List of Officers at the time, we do not wonder at the Discontent such a Measure must naturally give. It has been before observed Officers are not to be superseded without good and satisfactory Reasons yet when such really subsist (which do not in the present case) We shall be very ready to support the Authority you are invested with by Us for the appointment and promotion of proper Officers and is [*sic*] ready to

discourage all Combinations repugnant thereto. Mr. Carvalho's resignation, in order to put an end to the ferment certainly merits notice, & if he is well qualified for an Officer deserve all consistent Encouragement.

52. The List of Military Officers received by the Royal Duke by no means gives us the Information we want, as it contains only a List of their Names and the Dates of their present Commissions. In future therefore you must cause the Military Lists to be drawn out upon the Plan practiced at Fort St. George vizt. make Five Columns, in the first insert the Names, in the second the present Rank of each Officer, in the third the Date of such Rank, in the fourth in what Rank he was upon his first admission into the Service, & in the Fifth the Date of his said first Rank. Such Lists are very necessary for our information & therefore you must not fail sending them by two or three Conveyances every year.

53. We expect the orders for our Covenant Servants giving Twelve Months notice of their intentions for quitting our Service are strictly complied with, & they are not to be suffered to Come away before the expiration of that Term. We expect also & direct that upon the Expiration of the said Twelve Months Notice they shall be no longer in the Service, unless it shall most evidently appear to you that it will be for the Interest of the Company to continue them until our further Pleasure is known.

54. Affairs of great Importance, such as the Treaty Negotiated with Cossim Aly Khan most certainly ought to be laid before the Board before they are carried into Execution, if it can possibly be done with Safety. It may be true that the Secrecy which was observed by the Select Committee might greatly facilitate the carrying the said Treaty into Execution under their sole Direction, yet it would have been more satisfactory to have had the Approbation of the whole Board, who ought in such Case to have been enjoined the most inviolable Secrecy. In all future Transactions of Consequence therefore you are to observe, agreeable to our Directions in the year 1757, that, in general nothing is to be concealed from the President & Council, but what in its nature and circumstances ought to be really Secret.

55. As Messrs. Sumner and Mc.Gwire had been sworn in and acted for some time as Members of the Select Committee before our Orders on this head arrived. We do agree to their being continued therein. We observe it is resolved that [as] Vacancies happen in the said Committee no New Members are to be taken in until the number is reduced under Five, which We approve of as being agreeable to our last Orders.

56. In reply to your Paragraph relating to the request of the Revd. Mr. Butler you are to take notice that we will *upon no account have the Salaries* and Appointment of our Chaplains encreased, as we are satisfied the *present ones are fully sufficient.*

57. We are sorry to observe that many Informations concerning the Company's Affairs have been sent to His Majesty's Ministers and other Great

Men from our Servants belonging to yours and our other Presidencies, some of which particularly upon the late Transactions with the Dutch in Bengal have much embarrassed us; We wont say that such Communications are made with a view to lessen the authority of the Court of Directors, but they certainly have a great tendency that way. You are therefore to use all possible means for putting a Stop to this Practice, and as the Court of Directors is the only channel through which Government receives all Informations concerning the Company's Affairs, if private Informations therefore are sent from any of our Servants or others under our Protection we shall deem such Persons unworthy of the Company's Service & they shall be certainly Dismissed, whatever their Rank or Station may be.

58. In consideration of Capt. Thomas Fenwick's long Services, advanced Age and Infirmities we do agree that he [be] excused from any further Military Duty but that however he do enjoy his Pay and all the Emoluments as Captain of the first Company, and his said Company is to be commanded during his Life by a Captain Lieutenant.

59. Among the Cadets for your Presidency mention'd in our Letter of the 23rd December, there is one Samuel Blake, who having since Declined proceeding in that Station, We have in his room appointed George Thomas who is to rank & be preferr'd next after Caesar Flaction, in the same manner as was directed with respect to the said Samuel Blake.

60. Instead of inserting the names of Cadets in the General Letter, we shall in future cause exact & regular Lists to be sent in the Packets signed by our Secretary, and the Persons therein mention'd are accordingly to be employed & take Ranks in the order they shall be named in such Lists.

61. With respect to the Demands for Bonds lost in June 1756 We are surprized that you should again refer those Claims to us without any explanation, which was required by our letter to you of the 1st April 1760 and that you should content yourselves with giving an opinion of their Justness without acquainting us with the Grounds upon which the same was founded. This is the more Extraordinary, as some of those Demands differ materially from your own Accounts & some do not even appear to have any Claim on your Statement.

62. If you had duly attended to the Enquiry, we directed (1st April 1760) concerning the Demands that had then come before us, you would have been the necessity of having the rest of the Demands likewise explained.

63. And therefore till you have fully complied with our former directions we can by no means agree with you on the Justice of those Claims, nor consent to the payment of them.

64. As to the Payment you have made to the Widow Massey of Interest on Rups. 10,000, We cannot but disapprove of your Conduct therein, as this Bond does not appear to have been attended with any Circumstances different

from the other Claims, and as the Payment of the Interest may be construed as acknowledging the Legality of the whole Demand which at present is not sufficiently evident to us. And we are here necessarily led to direct that You not only avoid discharging the Principal of any of the Bonds said to be lost but even any Interest on them until you shall have enabled us to determine finally thereon.

65. We are sorry to observe that the separate Books of the Nabob's Donation which you have transmitted are not so satisfactory to us as you seem to imagine because this matter is now thrown into a very different light from what had appeared by your former Statements for instance.

66. The Nabob being charged in those Books with a greater Batta than any of your former Statements had mention'd & indeed greater than the different species of his payments produced the respective Funds are Over-Credited thereby, and consequently their Balances do now appear much larger than they ought.

67. It is true this would have occasion'd no difference provided those Funds had been duely & timely charged with their Proportions of the Loss by Batta instead of the whole of that Loss being placed to the Companys Account, as it now stand[s].

68. And we are the more surprized that the proper Deductions for the Losses by Batta, Jewels and Cloth were not made before the separate Books were closed, as you yourselves were sensible they ought to have been.

69. Another instance of the inaccuracy of the separate Books is the want of proper Explanations whether the Payments made to the several Funds are on account of Principal or Interest.

70. We are at a Loss to understand the further Dividend of seven & an half P cent which you mention to have paid to the European Sufferers, but We must conclude that it is only a part of the twenty P Cent Interest you had agreed to allow them (by your letter of 29th December 1759) and which we acquiesced in by our Advices of last year. And here we must again repeat our positive directions that on no account whatever this Indulgence of Twenty P Cent be exceeded.

71. Your desiring further and particular Orders for the application of the Surpluses on the several Funds when we had already been very full & explicit is too plain an indication of your reluctance to comply with our Determination on that head. The Directions we gave 8th March 1758 relative thereto were accompanied with such reasons as we conceived must be convincing to any unprejudiced persons, but it seems you are not satisfied therewith, notwithstanding you cannot be ignorant that the Company have by the Treaty with the Nabob Jaffier Ally Khan a very inadequate Compensation for their immediate & consequential Losses. In fact it is impossible to set a just Estimate upon them taken in their full extent, and yet when the European Sufferers have undoubtedly receiv'd an ample

Reparation for their Losses, together with an Interest of 20 P Cent thereon, you discover an unwillingness to apply the Residue towards placing the Company upon an equal footing. However we are not disposed to leave this matter any longer in suspense, for as to your apprehensions of being subjected to any disputes at Law with the concerned, the Company must of course be the only party affected thereby. We therefore peremptorily insist that the whole of the Surpluses be considered as a Fund of Restitution to the Company and do remain in your Treasury accordingly.

72. As to the Funds for the Natives and Armenians we can at present only direct that they be paid the amount of their established Losses, for as to Interest we have not receiv'd the least intimation that any is expected on them. You are therefore not to make any such Allowance without our approbation.

73. With regard to the Sum reserved for the European Commissioners we cannot suppose that Gentlemen acting for themselves their Friends and Country Men will expect any Reward for that service & therefore, we require and direct that the same be considered as part of the Surpluses and subject to the like detention in your Treasury.

74. As to the Opinion you request from us concerning your authority for dissolving the Commission for adjusting the European Claims, we concur with your having dissolved the same, for as you advise that no fresh Claims had appeared for some time, it might be considered as determined of course, and We cannot see why the continuation of a Trust should be contended for, under which there was little probability of any thing more to be done. However it may be prudent to Revoke or declare Void your Commission by some formal and public Act.

75. We cannot quit this subject without expressing our surprize to find by your Consultations of 15th Septr. 1760 that the Commissioners for the European Sufferers should decline laying before you a state of their Proceedings, but we are astonished to find that the President & Council had restrained them under an Oath of Secrecy. We cannot conceive what could be the motives for laying such an obligation, as no good purposes were likely to be answered thereby, and as it might be liable to the introduction of many bad ones. Under this [*sic*] circumstances, it is possible that the Bonds said to be lost may have been included in the allowed Claims & that many of the Demands on the Debt at Interest might have taken the benefit of the Restitution & be demanded a second time of the Company. We would not suppose that any of our Covenant Servants could be capable of such an action, but we are apprehensive that this step may have induced others to embrace so favourable an opportunity.

76. However as you are so far embarrassed by this Oath of Secrecy that you are not likely to obtain any satisfaction with respect to the grounds on which the Commissioners have established the Sufferers Claims, so as to be convinced of the Legality of any of their Demands upon the Company,

yet it is now become absolutely necessary, and We do now accordingly require that every Individual claiming on Bond, Note, or any other Account whatever existing at the time of the Capture do give some solne.[solemn] asseveration, as well as every other possible Proof that his Demand or any part thereof has not by himself nor any other person in his behalf been presented to the Commissioners & allowed by them.

77. And for our further satisfaction in this matter We also expect you will enquire and inform us if you can, what were the inducements for laying the Commissioners under an Oath of Secrecy & what advantages could be supposed to result therefrom.

78. As it can hardly be supposed but that the Claims under the several Funds must now be entirely compleated, we expect your perseverance in the order you gave (15th September 1760) for the European Commissioners to lay before you an account of their Proceedings wherein if they should extend the Oath of Secrecy so far as to suppose themselves not at liberty to specify the sums demanded, they must necessarily particularize the Sums allowed to each Individual for Interest as well as Principal.

79. And in order that the Commission may be immediately closed you will require the Commissioners to pay into your Treasury whatever Sum may remain in the hands together with a list of the Persons claiming thereof for your security in paying the same as it may be demanded.

80. Whatever has been said above relative to the Europeans you must consider as extending equally to other Commissions. And we expect to receive Duplicates of the Lists presented to you from the several Commissions.

81. We are greatly disappointed at not receiving your General Books compleat to April 1759, especially as you had employed a Person solely for that Business. If it was really necessary to have had the assistance of Monthly Writers this matter ought to have been attended to time enough for enabling you to transmit the General Books within the course of the last season at least. But here we cannot help remarking that You may certainly have a sufficient number of Covenant Servants to carry on this essential branch if they were kept a little closely to their Duty. As to Mr. Magee we trust you have not continued his Appointment longer than was necessary for his compleating the General Books to April¹ 1759.

82. You will receive herewith our Auditors Remarks on the directions given by your Committee of Accounts in September 1760 together with some other Observations to which we trust you will order due attention to be given, as your Books and Accounts will thereby be rendered more perfect and satisfactory.

83. We have several recent examples of the Company's suffering by our Servants Dying in Debt to the Company on account of Moneys or Effects

they have been entrusted with in their respective Departments or Offices. It is our opinion such kind of Debts ought immediately to be recovered out of any Assets which can be found upon the Decease of any of our Servants, and in order to Secure the Company from suffering in the like cases for the future, you must fall into some proper Methods of more frequent Examinations into Accounts, taking Security from all Persons in Office, or other ways as you shall judge most conducive for answering the purpose.

Eighthly concerning the Charter

84. As to your Conduct with respect to the dispute that had arisen in a Cause of Appeal whether the same amounted to Pagodas 1,000 prescribed by his Majesty's Charter we are of opinion that you have proceeded rightly in computing the Rupee at two shillings & four pence and the Pagoda at Eight Shillings & that in like cases you should not vary from this Rule.

85. We have received the Papers relative to the Suit commenced by the Owners of the ship Restitution & the Appeal from your Sentence which reversed the Decree of the Mayors Court, & we are of opinion that there is nothing in the Charter which precluded you from sitting as a Court of Appeals upon the Decree made by the Mayors Court in that Suit.

86. We send you his Majestys Pardon for Paulo Baptisto and think him a very fit object of Mercy, the Original we sent in the Walpole's Packet and Attested Copies by the Ships, Hardwicke and Drake.

Ninthly of His Majesty's Squadron and Land Forces

87. The Government intended to have sent 670 Soldiers this Season to the East Indies as you were advised in our letter of the 23rd December last. We are sorry to inform you that no more Recruits could be raised for Coll. Draper's Battalion. The 38 private Men, who with Lieutenant Andrew Gordon embarked on the Tilbury for Fort St. George, & instead of the other 600 only about Three hundred can be sent, who will proceed for the same Place on the Walpole, Hardwicke, Drake & Earl of Ashburnham.

88. The said Detachment consists of two Captains, four Lieutenants, two Ensigns & about three hundred Men of which Eight will be Serjeants. Upon the arrival of the said Detachment we are given to understand it is not to be kept in a separate corps, but divided as Recruits among the several Battalions now in India agreeable to orders from the Secretary of War, which will be sent to the proper Officers for this purpose.

89. It was intended that the said Detachment should have embarked at the same time on the beforemention'd four Ships Walpole, Hardwicke, Drake & Earl of Ashburnham, but as those Ships from many unforeseen and [un]avoidable incidents cannot get to Spithead so as to be Dispatched together, they will be forwarded according to their arrival at that place, & each of them will take in their proportion which will be as nearly equal on each Ship as possible.

90. The Embarkation of the said Detachment is committed to the care of Colonel Staats Long Morris, who, after the said Service is performed, will take his Passage on the Prince of Wales bound to Bombay, in order to take upon him the command of his Battalion now in India. The intent of his proceeding to Bombay is to review & settle matters with that Division of it which by our last advices was upon the Mallabar Coast, from thence he is to proceed to the Coast of Choromandel.

91. Upon Coll. Morris's arrival in India he is to be allowed the sum of £ 400 a year for House Rent, & the Expence of his Table, agreeable to the directions in our Letter of the 1st April 1760.

92. Should it so happen that any one or more of the Ships on which part of the said Detachment is embarked shall thro' the lateness of the Season go to Bengal, you are in such case to concert the necessary measures for it's Joining the Corps it is intended for, if it shall be thought proper & for the good of the Service.

Supplement

93: The Government having thought proper to present a Memorial to the States General of the United Provinces complaining of the Conduct & behaviour of the Dutch at Bengal in the year 1759, an Answer was return'd thereto wherein the Dutch East India Company give a very different account of the Facts & have even extended their Report to a very formidable Charge on us in return; This required from us a Memorial in Answer, which has been approved of by the Ministry in order to be deliver'd to the States General, printed Copies of which Pieces we now transmit for your information. In compiling our said last named Memorial We found ourselves greatly embarrassed in collecting Materials for want of a regular transmission of authentick Vouchers from Bengal. It is possible this Dispute may not end here. You are therefore carefully to peruse these Pieces & transmit to us every piece you have or can procure that may any way confirm what we have alledged or tend to give any light into any part of this Transaction, & you are likewise to give us a full account with the Vouchers of every subsequent Transaction with the Dutch, and you are not only on this but every future occasion when any incident happens which may create a Controversy between us & the Dutch or any other Europeans to transmit to us the Originals and for fear of their miscarrying Copies thereof authenticated in the most solemn way by other Conveyances of all Papers any way relative to such incident, except only such as you may likewise have occasion to produce or use in Bengal, And of such you will keep the Originals & send us Copies authenticated as beforemention'd. And in case any material Intelligence on such occasions can be procured from living Witnesses, let their Depositions on oath be regularly taken in writing, one of which you will keep & send us the other in Duplicate at least by different Conveyances.

94. In the present case the Originals of Mr. Bisdome's Letters & of the Dutch Petitions to the Nabob, are particularly wanted Copies whereof are number'd in the Appendix to our Memorial vizt. No. 6. 8. 11.

95. In your Consultations of the 26th of May & 29th September 1760, mention is made of two Letters from the Governour & Council at Houghley to the Board, the one desiring their Mediation with the Nabob Jaffier Aly Khan the other returning Thanks for such their Mediation, both of which, tho' very material Papers have been omitted to be Enter'd on your Consultations as they ought to have been, or in any Book whatsoever transmitted to us. You must therefore to rectify this negligence, send the Originals to us, also Copies, keeping a Copy yourselves, all which are to be authenticated in like manner as before described with respect to other material Papers.

96. In page..... of our Answer to the Dutch Memorial you will observe the Concession we make for the sake of a good Understanding with the Dutch Company, in wa[i]ving the advantage of our Exclusive Grant for the purchase of Salt Petre in Bengal as to admit the said Company to purchase that Commodity when and as they please but under this reasonable Restraint that their Servants shall not become Factors on this occasion to other European Nations. However we are to inform you that this Concession is not to take place until we can acquaint you in what manner this striking instance of our attention to the Interest of the Dutch Company is received in Holland. In the mean time you are to continue to supply them according to your present method with what quantities of Salt Petre you can spare, when our own Demands for that Article are supplied.

97. We join with you in acknowledging the signal and important Service of Major Carnac in the compleat Victory he gained over the Shazada, for whatever may be the consequences of that event, his Conduct and Military Skill deserves our approbation & you are to give him Our Thanks accordingly.

98. Whenever Men of Merit are pointed out for our Notice it gives us real pleasure, according to the Account you give us of Captain Randfurlie Knox, he certainly comes under that description, and you are to let him know that we have a just sense of his behaviour and Services.

99. It would be injustice not to take notice of Ensign Stables's prudent Conduct and Gallant behaviour against the Barackpore Rajah³, as it is related in your Select Diary under date of the 14th of December. As you yourselves have a due sense of his merit, we shall expect to hear you give him a fitting Encouragement.

100. It is very material we should be informed the real Price you have Sold the Salt Petre at to the Dutch from time to time, & we hope when your General Books & those from your Subordinates are receiv'd, we shall be satisfied in this particular, & in future We direct that you do insert

in your Letters to us the Quantities and Prices at which you deliver Salt Petre to the Dutch.

101. One Henry Harling who was some time ago order'd from Fort St. George or wherever else he should be in India for bad behaviour, we find, got to Bombay & made his Escape from the Ship he was ordered Home upon. If therefore he should at any time return to Bengal you are positively order'd to send him to England by the first conveyance.

102. In our letter of the 30th September we ordered Mr. Francis Charlton to be Dismissed from the Company's Service. We now direct that he be sent to England by the first Conveyance, after he has paid what we have suffered thro' his Negligence [*sic*] or Fraud & this must be a constant rule in future with respect to all Persons who shall be Dismissed the Service.

103. In our former letter of this season you have been advised that the ships Elizabeth, Harcourt & Horsendon were to be consign'd to the West Coast of Sumatra with Stores, Necessaries & Soldiers to be deliver'd there & afterwards to proceed with what Pepper could be put aboard in time directly for Canton, & in case it should unfortunately happen that a Resettlement has not been established upon the West Coast, the said Ships were then to proceed to Fort St. George & deliver their West Coast consignment at that Presidency, from whence they were to be Dispatched forthwith to China.

104. From many unforeseen & unavoidable incidents we have been prevented in our Attempts to Dispatch the said Ships from England at the intended time. Considering therefore the lateness of the Season, the uncertain situation of the Company's Affairs upon the West Coast of Sumatra, & in order to avoid the danger of the said Ships losing their Passage to China we have determined & give our orders accordingly for their proceeding to Canton directly instead of calling at Fort Marlbro' or any other place upon the said Coast.

105. We have taken out such of the articles as were proper for the West Coast only, and continued the rest on board & consigned them to our Council of Supra Cargos on the Companys Account, but as they are inconsiderable we have directed our President and Council at Fort St. George not to abate of the value of the Cargos which they are to consign to China on the Ships bound from that Presidency to Canton.

106. When we can be assured of a Resettlement upon the West Coast we have thoughts of taking up a Ship or two to carry some Military people & the necessary Stores thither. In the mean time we shall depend upon you taking all proper measures for your keeping a Footing & supporting

& maintaining in Conjunction with our other Presidencies all such of our servants Civil and Military as may be Resident on that Coast.

We are

Your Loving Friends

Lau. Sullivan/Thos. Rous/Hy. Crabb Boul-
ton/Chas. Cutts/John Harrison/Fredk. Pigou/
G. Rooke/Heny. Savage/Christr. Baron/F.
W. Barrington/Cha. Gough/Richd. Warner/
Timothy Tullie/Richd. Smith/Tho. Waters/
John Dorrien/Bourchier Walton.

London

19th February 1762.

15

LETTER DATED 2 APRIL 1762

Instructions regarding His Majesty's detachment—capture of French ships—exchange of prisoners of war and hostages—instructions regarding friendly relations with the Dutch.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letter under date of the 19th of February went in Triplicate by the Ships Walpole, Hardwicke & Drake, and Fourth Transcript thereof will go by the Earl of Ashburnham.

2. The ships Houghton, Grosvenor & Walpole the two first bound to Fort St. George and China, & the last named for Fort St. George and Bengal, sailed from Spithead on the 5th of March under convoy of a Squadron commanded by Sir George Pocock, who was going on a Secret Expedition, it was thought to the West Indies; as the Wind continued fair, the two last named Ships proceeded on their Voyage but the Houghton having unfortunately receive'd much Damage by running foul of the Lawrel a large Transport ship belonging to the said Squadron, was obliged to return to Portsmouth to refit, where she arrived on the 8th of the same Month. The Lawrel notwithstanding all the assistance given her sunk at Sea.

3. The ships Elizabeth, Harcourt & Horsendon for China, the Hector & Winchelsea for Bombay, with the Hardwicke and Drake for Fort St. George and Bengal sailed from Spithead under a Convoy, which was to see them well into the Sea on the 25th March.

4. Upon our Altering the Voyages of the Ships Elizabeth, Harcourt & Horsendon by ordering them directly to China, instead of sending them to the West Coast of Sumatra we have taken up the Valentine of 499 tons

99 Men & 26 Guns for the West Coast which ship we propose to Dispatch thither with Stores, Necessaries & some Recruits about the end of May.

5. It has been represented to us by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary at War, that the Draughts for his Majesty's Forces in the East Indies embarked on the Ships Walpole, Hardwicke, Drake & Earl of Ashburnham are conducted thither by two Captains, four Lieutenants, two Ensigns, seven Serjeants with one Drummer and desiring the necessary Orders may be given for their being brought back to Europe by the first opportunity after they have deliver'd the said Draughts. You are therefore on any of them coming to Bengal to Provide them with Passages home on the first returning Ships & give the Commanders orders accordingly to receive them on board. The Serjeants & Drummer are to be only Charterparty Passengers, for whom you are to pay the Commanders ten pounds a head. As to the Commission Officers you are to pay the Commanders thirty pounds each for accommodating them at their Tables with Fresh Provisions, as also ten pounds a head as Charterparty Passengers.

6. As this is a particular case & the said Persons go to India for the beforemention'd purpose only, and are therefore deemed to be on Service as well Homeward bound as in the Voyage out, we are under the necessity of complying to make the said Allowances, but it is by no means to be looked upon as a precedent for Allowances to any other returning Officers, as we expect our Orders on this head as well of this Season as before are punctually complied with.

7. The Right Hon'ble the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having signified to us, that it being thought proper the better to prevent any Imposition on the Crown in the Exchange of Bills drawn from the East Indies by the Agents to the Navy, Victualling and Sick & Wounded Boards for Stores, Provisions and Necessaries for his Majesty's Service, that the said Agents should produce at the foot of their Bills a Certificate from the Governor & two of the Council at the place where they may be drawn of the Currency of the Exchange at the times of their dates and desiring we will send directions accordingly.

8. Their Lordships doubtless mean the Rates of Exchange both for Moneys taken up of the Company and Private Persons, with respect to the first, we do not find any Bills have been drawn by any Agents belonging to His Majesty's Squadron or Land Forces since they have been in India, but whenever Bills may happen to be drawn on those Accounts payable to the Company the Exchange must be settled agreeable to our former orders at the Rate of Six shillings and six pence for a Weighty Dollar, as we cannot afford to advance Money under, & even the Advancing at that Rate is to be avoided if possible; In such Bills the said Rate is particularly to be described and Certified.

9. As to Money taken up by the Government's Agents of Private Persons, the Governor & two of the Council are as desired to Certify the

Currency of Exchange upon the Bills being produced to them, which Currency of Exchange their Lordships must certainly mean the Medium Rate at which Money can be taken up of Private Persons.

10. The only Man of War which has been sent to the East Indies this last season is the Argo Frigate of 28 Guns, Capt. [...] King, which sailed from Plymouth on the 25th of February. Coll. William Draper took Passage on her in order to join his Regiment.

11. Advices in the public Papers dated from Port L' Orient the 18th February say that on the 2nd of that month Three Ships fitted out by the [French] East India Company, Sailed thence for the Isle of France.

12. On the 26th of February the Count de Villenaux of 450 tons 112 Men & 18 Guns, Capt. Carro from Mauritius for Port L' Orient, with 4024 bales of Coffee, was taken by His Majesty's ships Fame and Lion in Lat : 40 & was soon after brought into Plymouth. This ship sailed from France in March 1761, and left Mauritius the 4th September last.

13. Capt. Kennedy of His Majestys Ship the Blonde gives also an account in his letter to the Lords of the Admiralty of the 23rd February off Lisbon, of his having taken on the 11th the Boutin a French East India Ship of 460 tons burthen mounting 20 Guns & having 189 Men on Board, many of them Passengers, she was bound from the Isle of Mauritius laden with Coffee & a little Pepper.

14. As from the misfortune the Houghton has met with there is reason to apprehend she will be too late to arrive at Fort St. George according to her Original Destination, but will be under the necessity of proceeding to Bengal, if that shall happen to be the case you are to cause her to be unliverd with the utmost expedition & then Dispatch her away to Canton without loss of time with a Cargo in Money & proper Goods to the amount of £ 30,000, but if it is encreased even as far as £ 50,000 it will be much more agreeable to us. You are to consign the whole to our Supra Cargos there, and the Governour is to give Private Orders to the Commander to proceed to China agreeable to the Instructions of the Secret Committee, which have been deliver'd to him here in case his departure for China shall happen to be late.

15. The severai Goods, Stores and whatever else were designed from Fort St. George, as well belonging to the King as the Company, are to be forwarded thither by the first good Conveyances as they offer.

16. We must repeat what we have often inculcated to you that the China Trade is a branch of the utmost Importance to the Company and must be promoted to the utmost of the ability of our several Presidencies. We shall therefore depend upon your dispatching the Houghton thither as before directed, & from which there must be no deviation.

17. Upon the application we made a considerable time since to the Commissioners for taking care of Sick & wounded Seamen and for exchanging Prisoners of War, for procuring the Release of our Civil and Military officers taken Prisoners by the French on the West Coast of Sumatra from the Parole they were engaged under, an Exchange has been accordingly effected, the Board having acquainted us by their Letter of the 23rd March, that a Ratification in form has been mutually signed by them and Monsr. Guillet His most Christian Majesty's Commissary General at St. Malo for that purpose, by which the several Gentlemen who gave Paroles not to serve against the French during the War or until exchanged, may with safety resume their Employments; in consequence of this Ratification we have received proper certificates under the hands and Seals of the said Commissioners to be transmitted to the several Persons who were made Prisoners, as well those who remained Hostages as the Others which go to Fort St. George by this Ship, & others of the same tenor will be forwarded to the West Coast directly by the Valentine; we also herewith enclose attested Copies of the Commissioners Letter & Certificates with Lists of the Officers made Free, that if any are within the Limits of your Presidency they may be immediately informed thereof, & entitled to the Benefit of this act in their behalf. To the said List of Exchanged Officers are subjoined the names of some others, who being resident at different Settlements were not included in the Articles settled with the Count D'Estaing upon the Capture of Fort Marlborough & a timely account of their situation not being received they were not comprehended in the number of those Released; But as a proper Application is made in their behalf, there is no doubt of their being also put on the same footing as the other West Coast Servants & that we shall be able to send the proper Certificates and Informations by the Valentine to the West Coast & to acquaint you therewith by the following conveyance; in the mean time we are of opinion they may act again in our Service & in particular Mr. Nairne who appears by his private Letters to have been freed from his Parole by Lieut. Genl. Lally.

18. In favour of Messrs. Tierney & Griffith Hostages whom we suppose have been conveyed to & remain at the French Islands, application has been made that their Exchange may operate, by Orders to be sent thither on the part of the French for their speedy Enlargement with the liberty of proceeding to any Neutral Port in their way to some of our Settlements for resuming their Employments, and we hope their Removal will be accordingly effected. Nevertheless it is not our intention to prevent your using any secure and proper means for their Release consistent with our interest.

19. The Rt. H'ble the Earl of Bute one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State having signified to Us that there is reason to apprehend the Dutch East India Company, extremely anxious at the situation of their Affairs in Bengal may induce the States General to take such measures as may produce the most fatal Consequences & become perhaps the Cause of a Rupture between the two Powers in those parts, if the utmost care & precaution be

not used without delay to prevent it, that his Lordship therefore had the King's Command to recommend to Us in the Most serious manner to contribute as far as lies in our power to put an End to the unhappy Disputes which subsist at present between the two Companies. Since the preceding notification Lord Bute has further informed us that the King & the States General were desirous of having the Disputes between the two Companies adjusted by Commissaries, the same has been accordingly agreed to on all Parts. Upon this, among other previous Conditions, that Assurances should be given on both sides to abstain from all *Voyes* [voies] *de Fait*, or Acts of Violence, whilst the Commissaries are discussing the respective Pretensions of the two Companies & until they come to an amicable Adjustment of them, and that the most precise Orders should be sent for that purpose to the Governors & Servants of the respective Companies in the East Indies. The States General having given such an Assurance on the part of their Company, & actually put a Stop to an Armament which they intended to have sent to India on this Occasion, We, in obedience to his Majesty's Commands, as well as being desirous to do every thing in our power to facilitate an accommodation between the two Companies do therefore hereby positively order & direct, that you do not commit any Hostility or act of Violence against the Dutch Company's Agents, on the contrary, you are to use your best endeavours to Cultivate by all sorts of good Offices a reciprocal Friendship & good Understanding with them, & in particular if the Nabob shall unjustly attempt to molest the Dutch Company in Bengal, or any way prejudice them in their Trade, Privileges or Property, You are to interpose your good Offices in order to procure them Redress and Satisfaction; And if those should prove ineffectual, you are to Aid and Defend them to the utmost of your power; it being our sincere desire & intentions that the Dutch Company shall enjoy Freedom of Trade, Safety and Protection equally with ourselves.

20. In order to shew our real inclination for preventing and removing any Obstruction to the Trade of the Dutch Company We do agree and allow that immediately upon the receipt of this, and notwithstanding what we said in our Letter of the 19th February last, their Agents or Servants may purchase Salt Petre for them, when and as they please, under this Restriction nevertheless, that it is for the said Company's Account only & that their Servants shall not become Factors for other European Nations, and perhaps supplying thereby his Majesty's Enemies with a Commodity so essential to their Hostile Designs.

21. Altho' we hope the Disputes between the English & Dutch will be amicably adjusted, yet for fear the contrary should be the case, you must strictly attend to and comply with the Directions in our Letter of 19th February for sending us Accounts of all Transactions, and the Vouchers & Papers therein mentioned.

22. Since writing the above Advice is receiv'd of His Majesty's ship Valiant Captain Keppel one of Sir George Pocock's Squadron having taken

Mr. President and Council
 Fort William in Bengal.

Our Council as Executors of the Company's Affairs
 for the Year ensuing having been yesterday made the first
 thereupon appointed by the Chairman and Mr.
 Thomas Lloyd Esq. by a unanimous vote with Charles Gough and
 Timothy Sullivan Esq. to be a committee for reference
 to whose Orders if any one of those Gentlemen or any
 all others to whom they shall be directed are to give the
 most punctual attention and obedience.

We are

Yours truly
 Fort William the 8. April 1862.

Your loving Friends

John Lloyd
 Thomas Lloyd
 Esq.

Mr. Brown
 John Brown
 Geo. Dudley
 West. J. L. L.
 George L. L.
 Richard L. L.
 W. L. L.
 Boucher L. L.
 Alex. L. L.
 Christ. B. L.
 M. L. L.
 W. L. L.
 W. L. L.
 L. L. L.
 Rich. L. L.
 Rich. L. L.
 L. L. L.

the French Companys ship L'Esprit from the Isle of Bourbon with about Nine thousand Bales of Coffee, a Quantity of Pepper and Ebony, with several Passengers bound for France, and that the Prize was brought into Plymouth by the Burford the 29th Ultimo. She left Bourbon the 24th Novem. last, where Provisions were excessively scarce, & (according to the Report of the Prisoners) three French Men of War remained. They also say, they were Chased by two of his Majesty's Ships off the Cape of Good Hope the 15th December and there are many Passengers on board, whence it is conjectured they were in Expectation of an Attack.

We are

Your Loving Friends

Lau. Sullivan/Thos. Rous/Chas. Cutts/John
Boyd/John Harrison/Heny. Savage/G. Rooke/
F. W. Barrington/Richd. Seward/Tho.
Waters/Bourchier Walton/Hy. Crabb Boul-
ton/Fredk. Pigou/Christr. Baron/John Dor-
rien/Richd. Warner/W. Thornton/Richd.
Smith/Timothy Tullie/S. Harrison.

London
the 2nd April 1762.

16

LETTER DATED 8 APRIL 1762

Composition of the Secret Committee of Court of Directors.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

Our Election as Directors of the Companys Affairs for the year ensuing having been yesterday made, We have thereupon appointed Thomas Rous Esqr. Chairman and John Dorrien Esqr. Deputy Chairman, with Charles Gough and Timothy Tullie Esqrs. to be Our Secret Committee for that Term, to whose Orders or of any Three of those Gentlemen, you and all others to whom they shall be directed are to give the most punctual Attention and Obedience.

We are,

Your Loving Friends

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/Geo. Dudley/Heny
Savage/Tho. Waters/Richd. Seward/W. Thor-
nton/Bourchier Walton/Hen. Hadley/Christr.
Baron/F. W. Barrington/Wm. Snell/Wm.
Webber/J. Browne/Richd. Warner/Robt.
Burrow/Timothy Tullie/Richd. Smith/Will.
Barwell/G. Steevens.

London
the 8th April 1762.

LETTER DATED 21 APRIL 1762

Tranquillity in Bengal and Madras—expedition to Mauritius—limited powers of the Select Committee.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. The Earl of Ashburnham the last Ship of this Season destined for the Coast and Bay being now under dispatch We take the opportunity of advising you that the Ships Falmouth and Prince Edward from Fort St. George arrived at Plymouth on the 6th Instant; they touched at St. Helena and left that Island on the 26th of January no other Ships being there, On Account of the great number of French Prisoners on board, and the then inability of that Presidency to provide an Investment the Cargoes of the said Ships to our misfortune are inconsiderable.

2. By the said Ships We received in Duplicate a short Letter from you of the 5th June 1761, by the same Conveyance came also a Letter in Duplicate from your Select Committee to our Secret Committee of the same date.

3. It gives us great Pleasure to observe that You are in a State of Tranquillity and that the Investment goes on better than expected.

4. Our Advices by the said Ships from Fort St. George give also a very agreeable Account of the tranquil Situation of Affairs on that Coast and that the President and Council have good hopes of collecting in about Two Seasons the greatest part of the Nabobs Debt.

5. From these Circumstances We do with reason flatter Ourselves that We shall not only have considerable Investments from both Presidencys but that You will also be able to give all necessary assistance to enable Our President and Council of Bombay to dispatch home the Ships on their hands as likewise to supply Our China Trade with as large remittances as possible agreeable to Our repeated Recommendations.

6. The sending any of our Troops to assist in setting the Shawzadah on the Throne of Dellie might be attended with many disagreeable Consequences to Our Affair[s] unless there could be a certainty of carrying that Point, [but] as this could by no means be depended on We observe with satisfaction how cautious the Select Committee have been as appears by their beforementioned Letter not to take up such a measure without the concurrence of the several Circumstances they point out, As the true Interest of the Company depends upon Tranquillity & a good Understanding with the People of the Country, You cannot be too careful pursuing such measures as are most likely to secure the same and which therefore We most earnestly recommend to your Attention and care.

7. By the Advices from Fort St. George We learn Capt. Vincent of the Osterley stayed at Fort Marlborough until relieved by another Ship (the Earl Temple) having at the earnest Request of the Natives resettled that Place with several of Our Factors and others. You are therefore as well as all other Presidencys to contribute every thing in your power agreeable to Our reiterated Orders and Recommendations towards the Assistance Protection and Maintenance of our Settlements upon the West Coast.

8. We observe your sentiments upon the measures for carrying into Execution the Plan for an attempt upon the Island Mauritius, but as His Majestys Squadron being gone on that Expedition in consequence of Orders the Commander in Chief received from the Government here, We are entirely unacquainted with the adopted Plan, nor are we at present informed how it has succeeded.

9. Our Secret Committee for the present direction consists of Thomas Rous Esqr. the present Chairman of the Court of Directors, John Dorrien Esqr. Deputy, Charles Gough and Timothy Tullie Esqrs. any three of whom are a Quorum.

10. Notwithstanding any former Powers, your Select Committee is not for the future to carry any thing into Execution. It is only to make proper Plans for that purpose, to be laid before the General Council for their Information & directions., in short nothing is to be concealed from the President & Council but what in its Nature and Circumstances ought to be really Secret, and might be prejudicial to the Company if discovered for a time at least, in consequence whatever matters and Transactions are not of a Secret nature must stand upon your Consultations and be advised to Us in your General Letters, and the rest must be communicated by the Select Committee to Our Secret Committee.

11. Having appointed Mr. John Bathoe now residing in Bengal to be a Factor upon the Fort Marlborough Establishment, You are therefore to inform him it is Our pleasure that he do accordingly proceed to his Station by the First proper Conveyance.

We are

Your Loving Friends

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/J. Browne/Geo.
Dudley / Wm. Snell / W. Thornton / Richd.
Seward/Richd. Warner / Wm. Webber / Bour-
chier Walton / Richd. Smith / G. Steevens /
Timothy Tullie/Tho. Waters/Robt. Burrow/
Christr. Baron/F. W. Barrington/John Man-
ship/S. Harrison / Heny. Savage.

London
21st April 1762.

LETTER DATED 30 NOVEMBER 1762

Cessation of hostilities in Europe—instructions regarding shipping.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. It being of the greatest Consequence that You should have the earliest Notice of a Cessation of Arms between Great Britain, France and Spain, We send this by the way of Aleppo and Bussorah as it may probably reach you before any dispatches by Shipping.

2. On the 8th Instant one of the King's Messengers arrived at the Earl of Egremont's Office His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State, with the Instruments of Preliminary Articles of Peace Signed at Fontainebleau, the 3d Instant by His Grace the duke of Bedford His Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary with those of the Most Christian & Catholick Kings.

3. In consequence thereof a Cessation of Arms was publicly declared here between the said Powers on the 26th Instant by His Majesty's Proclamation several whereof are herein enclosed for your Information.

4. In order that this Cessation of Arms may have its proper and intended Effect, You are not only strictly to observe it yourselves but You are to send & give immediate Notice thereof to every part of India, and wherever else We have any Connections or it may be of any possible Utility.

5. As by the said Proclamation You will observe there are certain times specified after which all Captures which may happen to be made are to be restored, and the time beyond the Equinoctial longitude being settled at Six months from the day the Ratifications of Preliminaries were Exchanged You are therefore to give Orders to the Command of all our homeward bound Ships which are dispatched after the 22nd of May next to make the best of their way to St. Helena and after staying there a reasonable time to refresh their People to proceed directly to the River of Thames as before the War.

6. The Commanders of any Ships which You may dispatch before the said 22nd of May are to be cautioned to be more particularly on their Guard until the said 22nd day of May but their Orders for proceeding to and departure from St. Helena are to be the same as the other.

7. We send herewith a List of the Arrival of our several Ships in the course of this Year.

8. Also a List of the Ships taken up this Season [to] be employed in the Company's Service with the times it [is] proposed they shall proceed on their Voyages:

9. By the said List you will observe that the Ships Falmouth, Hawke and Neptune are Consigned to China, We rely from your encreased Revenues and according to the Commendable example You have already given at the beginning of this Year in your extraordinary Attention to Our China Trade, that with the Aid of Madras Presidency, if it shall be in a condition to assist therein, You will contribute such a supply of Treasure to be immediately sent to Fort St. George, as may enable them to dispatch those Ships for Canton with Cargoes to the Amount of Thirty thousand Pounds each at least, and We give this early Notice of our Expectations, that it may have its desired effect, and your speedily enabling Our Presidency of Bombay also in concert with Fort St. George, to give the Latham a Stock of Forty thousand Pounds for China, will be a Service of equal importance and as such is required at Your hands.

We are

Your Loving Friends

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/Cha. Gough/
Wm. Snell/Heny. Savage/Bourchier Walton/
Geo. Dudley/Richd. Seward/G. Steevens/
F. W. Barrington/Richd. Warner/J. Browne/
Richd. Smith/Timothy Tullie/Robt. Burrow/
Christr. Baron / Hen. Hadley.

London

*30th November 1762.

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LETTER DATED 9 DECEMBER 1762

Observations on articles of peace—proposed incorporation of His Majesty's detachment with Company's forces.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1. We sent by the way of Aleppo and Bussora a Letter under date of the 30th of November to inform you of the Cessation of Arms between Great Britain, France and Spain, and with it His Majesty's Proclamation, having notice that the Liverpoole Man of War was to be dispatched to the East Indies on this occasion, by the Permission of the Lords of the Admiralty We sent a Duplicate by that Ship. But as the Preliminary Articles have been since published by Authority, We take the Opportunity of sending them to you by this additional Packet.

2. You will observe the 10th Article which relates to the East Indies is improperly and loosely worded, We have made the necessary application to His Majesty's Secretary of State to have it settled in the Definitive Treaty in a manner agreeable to our Sentiments, and as the Duke of Bedford His

*Recd. 14 June 1763. Enforcement on the other copy is 'Cont. 6 June 1763'.

Majesty's Plenipotentiary at the Court of France has Instructions thereupon accordingly, We are in hopes of succeeding.

3. It is the general opinion that the Definitive Treaty will be very speedily executed by the several Powers and will differ very little from the Preliminaries, But as we hope this will come to your hands before the Advices of the Ratification of the said Treaty, it is highly necessary you should take some measures which will not admit of delay.

4. We have made an Application to Government that the King's Forces instead of returning to England may have leave to engage in and be incorporated with the Company's, That is to say, all Ensigns, Subalterns and Private Men belonging to the Battalions; Lieutenants and all below them in the Artillery Companies, and the Marines belonging to the Squadron, The Field and all other Officers above the before mentioned degrees being [*sic*] to be recalled; As we have good reason to believe our Request will be complied with we give you this early notice that you may previously be taking the proper Steps for engaging as many as you can. As to the Commission Officers there will be no occasion to make them any Allowance for engaging; but as to the Non-Commission Officers and Private Men, rather than they should return home we are willing a Gratuity should be given to such; as are good and able bodied Men to encourage them to enter for the Term of Five years. In the year 1748 we allowed of a Bounty to be given on a like occasion of Forty Rupees to each Man, but we must leave it to you to fix upon the Quantum more or less as you shall find necessary; However in cases where any one Enters on his being promoted to the Rank of a Serjeant or a Corporal not having served in that Rank before, we expect such Person enters without any other Bounty than That of his Promotion.

We are

Your loving Friends

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/Cha. Gough/
Wm. Snell/Geo. Dudley/G. Steevens/F.
W. Barrington/Heny. Savage/John Browne/
Richd. Smith/Wm. Webber/Rt. Burrow/W.
Thornton/S. Harrison/Richd. Seward/
Timothy Tullie/Tho. Waters/Bourchier
Walton/Richd. Warner.

London
9th Decemr, 1762.

LETTER DATED 17 DECEMBER 1762

Shipping news—Residents and Supercargoes for China Council—particulars of exports for various settlements—mutual assistance by various Presidencies in respect of investment—writers below 21 not to have benefit of dastaks—approval of Ramnarayan's

dismissal from Nawabship of Patna—Messrs Amyatt and Ellis criticised for their part in Ramnarayan affair—procedure for recording dissenting opinions and correspondence with Indian powers—appointments to artillery corps—help to be given to Sumatra—despatch of recruits.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal

1. Our last letter under date of the 21st of April went by the Ship Earl of Ashburnham and Houghton. We now send a Triplicate by the Deptford, Our Advices also of the 30th November have been dispatched by different Land and Sea Conveyances noticing the Important Event of a Cessation of Arms between the Crowns of Great Britain, France and Spain.

2. The other Letters we write to you in the course of last Season having gone by several Conveyances each of which were in Triplicate at least, we can have no doubt of their coming to your hands.

3. The General and other Letters received from your Presidency this Season are as follow vizt.

General Letters dated the 12th November 14th and 24th December 1761, 21st January, 15th and 16th February and 15th March 1762.

From your Select Committee to the Secret Committee of the 13th November 1761 and 21st January 1762.

From Governour Vansittart to the Secret Committee of the 15th November, and 20th December 1761 and 12th January 1762.

From Major Carnac to the Secret Committee of 8th February 1762.

From Mr. Thomas Amphlett of the 14th December 1761 and

From Mr. Alexander Scott Master Attendant, of the 19th January 1762.

4. We advised you by our beforementioned Letter of the 21st of April of the arrival of the Ships Falmouth and Prince Edward from Fort St. George at Plymouth on the 6th of that month; We have now the pleasure of informing you of the safe arrival of the following named Ships vizt. Hawke, and Plassey from your Presidency at Leith, on the 3rd June, The Neptune, Duke of Richmond and Pitt from China at Plymouth the 12th July, also the Norfolk, Caernarvon and Princess Augusta from the same Place at Falmouth on the 16th July.

5. And on the 5th September arrived in the Downes under Convoy of His Majesty's Ship the Assistance, the Earl of Holderness from Bengal, also the Ships Worcester, Triton, Prince Henry and Prince George from China, when they left St. Helena which was the 17th June, only the Royal Charlotte Store Ship remained there, for We have learnt since by a Dane Ship, that she sailed for China the 4th July. The Ships Yorke from Bombay and Warren from Bengal and Fort St. George are also arrived the first at Plymouth on the 29th of October and the other at Portsmouth two days after;

they sailed together from St. Helena the 16th of August at which time no Ship remained there.

6. We acquainted you in our last Letter, that the Gentlemen who composed the Secret Committee for the present Direction were Thomas Rous Esqr. Our Chairman, John Dorrien Esqr. Deputy, Charles Gough and Timothy Tullie Esqrs.

7. We have taken into our Service this Season the undernamed Ships of 499 Tons each, which with the times proposed for their Departure to the severall Places of their Consignments are as follow vizt.

Ships	Commanders	Consignment	Times proposed for Dispatch
Egmont	Charles Mears	St. Helena and China	Now under Dispatch
Hawke	John Cotton	Coast & China	
Falmouth	Geffrie O' Hara		
Neptune	Gabriel Steward		
Plassey	James Ward	Coast and Bay	
Deptford	William Tryon		
Havannah	Thomas Madge	China directly	the end of Jany. the end of Jany. the end of Febry.
Cruttenden	John Bowland	St. Helena & China.	
Glatton	Richard Doveton	Bencoolen & China	
Pocock	Benjamin Hooke		
Lord Clive	William Webber	Coast & Bay	
...	Peter Pigou		
...	George Richardson		
Lord Mansfield	Alexander Macleod	.	end of Febry.
Latham	James Moffatt	.	end of March
...	Henry Fletcher	Bombay.	do.
...	Patrick Maitland	.	end of Febry.
...	Thomas Dethick	.	end of March
...	James Dewar	.	

8. The Ships Latham and the New Ship Captain Dethick, mentioned in the preceding List are to continue in India till early in the year 1764 under the direction of the President and Council of Bombay, and are then to be dispatched; the Latham for China with a Cargo to the amount of £40,000 and the New ship Captain Dethick to Mocha with a Cargo sufficient for the purchase of a Loading of Coffee; both Ships to be returned home the one from China and the other from Mocha.

9. As the said several Ships are taken up on the same terms and Conditions as those of the two preceding Seasons, We have only to refer you to

their respective charterparties, for your being informed of the Particulars, and to our Letters at those times, for such Directions which were then, and still continue necessary for your Observation and Guidance.

10. The following named Gentlemen are chosen and appointed by us to be the Council of Supra Cargoes for the management of the Company's Affairs in China the ensuing Season vizt. Messrs. Thomas Fitzhugh, Samuel Blount, Henry Revell, Hillary Torriano, Nathaniel Garland, Alexr. Hume, Mann Horner, Benjamin Torin, Thomas Smith, Robert John Harrison, Alexander Fraser and William Rous.

11. The Ships Consigned and to be consigned to the said China Council are the Egmont, Cruttenden, Falmouth, Hawke, Neptune, Glatton, Pocock and Havannah also the Britannia expected to arrive at Canton from Bombay in the year 1763 or in case of any accident happening to that Ship, such other as shall be sent in her stead, which we have in such case pointed out the Hector, to the President and Council for that Service, also the Valentine agreeable to Directions sent last Season to Fort Marlborough, Besides all these the said Council are to take under their management, all such Ships as shall arrive or be at Canton in the said year 1763, from any of the Company's Settlements in India, destitute of Supra Cargoes, customarily called Casual Ships.

12. The Gentlemen who are to continue in China and Our Residents for the year 1764 are Messrs. Fitzhugh, Blount, Garland, Hume, Horner, Smith and Rous.

13. Our said Residents are to Conduct and take care of our Affairs upon the departure of such of the Council as are to leave China in the Season of the year 1763 and before the arrival of those Gentlemen we shall appoint for the succeeding Council agreeable to such Instructions as We shall give them.

14. The principal Articles of Our Exports for the severall parts of India and to China this Season, are intended to be as follow, or as nearly so as Our Tonnage and other circumstances will admit of vizt.

For the Presidency of Fort William Cloth 1295 Bales, Copper 252 Tons
Lead 70 Tons, Iron 70 Tons, Gunpowder 300 Barrels.

For the Presidency of Fort St. George Cloth 659 Bales, Long Ells 48 Bales
Copper 165 Tons, Lead 70 Tons, Iron 70 Tons, Steel 5 Tons, Gunpowder 500 Barrels.

For the Presidency of Bombay For the Bombay Market : Cloth 2118 Bales
Long Ells 463 Bales, Copper 336 Tons, Lead 40 Tons, Iron 40 Tons,
Tin 115 Tons, Steel 10 Tons, Gunpowder 200 Barrels.

For the Scindy Market Cloth 156 Bales, Long Ells 40 Bales.

For the Bussora Market Cloth 761 Bales, Long Ells 316 Bales of 10 Pieces
in each Bale.

For the Presidency of Fort Marlborough Treasure 17 Chests, Iron 50 Tons, Steel 5 Tons, Tin 5 Tons, Gunpowder 200 Barrels, with Stores and Necessaries of several sorts.

For Canton Treasure 30 Chests, Cloth 330 Bales, Long Ells 500 Bales, Camblets 500 Pieces, and Hairbines 100 Pieces, the two last Articles making together about 24 Bales.

15. The foregoing are the principal Articles of our intended Exports, but besides them we shall send to our respective Presidencies, several Stores of various kinds, as nearly agreeable to the several Indents as we shall think necessary, and our Tonnage and other circumstances will admit of.

16. Considering the plentiful supply of Madeira Wine we sent last Season to our several Presidencies, and the great difficulties we find ourselves under for Tonnage, even for our beforementioned Exports, and the Government's Stores hereafter named, without taking up additional Ships, and thereby running the risk of being overstocked with more than returning Cargoes can be provided for, We have determined upon sending no Madeira Wine by the Ships of this year.

17. The Stores we are under the necessity of sending out for the Service of the Government this Season, consist of the following particulars vizt. Victualling and Naval Stores for the use of His Majesty's Squadron about 614 Tons of the former, and 450 Tons of the latter; Cloathing for the King's Troops, for Colonel Draper's Battallion about 25 Tons, Colonel Monson's Twenty-five Tons, Colonel Coote's Twenty five Tons, Coll. Morris's Twenty Tons, The Artillery Companies at Madrass one Ton and an half, and those at Bombay Two Tons and an half.

18. Having thus given a general Account of our intended Export, We proceed to inform you in a summary way, what manner the several Articles are to be forwarded to the place they are designed for vizt. All the Bales of Woollen Goods for Fort St. George and Bengal, together with 1990 of the Bombay Bales go in the three Coast and China Ships, and the five Coast and Bay Ships, which make about 500 Bales on each Ship, the rest of the Bales for Bombay, will be sent in the Ships bound directly to the Place. One Moiety of the Bales for Canton goes on the Ships bound directly thither, and the other moiety is divided in equal proportions upon the two Ships which call first at the West Coast, The Copper, Lead, Iron, Gunpowder and other Articles intended for our Presidencies, will be forwarded in nearly equal proportions on the several Ships bound to them respectively. The three Coast and China Ships have Sixty Tons of lead each for Canton, and the remainder of the quantity for that Market, is proportioned on the rest of the Ships bound to China.

19. The reason of disposing of the 1990 Bales in the manner mentioned above is, that they are so many more than the direct Bombay Ships can

carry, The President and Council of Fort St. George are directed to forward them by the first good Conveyances that offer to that Presidency and in case any of them should come to Bengal, you will in like manner send them to Bombay.

20. For a particular account of each Ship's Cargo consigned to your Presidency, Reference is to be had to the respective Ships' Invoice.

21. As to the Government's Stores, those from the Naval and Victualling Departments go, one half in nearly equal proportions on the Eight Ships, which are bound to Fort St. George, and the other half will in like manner be divided on the Bombay Ships, All the Cloathing for the Troops will be sent on three of the Coast and Bay Ships, except that intended for the Artillery Company at Bombay, which will be sent on one of the Ships bound thither; The President and Council of Fort St. George are directed to take care, that such proportions of the said Stores, as come in the Ships bound to Fort St. George are carefully delivered to the proper Officers, which is mentioned for your guidance in case any of them should come to Bengal.

22. As from the present flourishing State of Our Revenues in Bengal we may with good reason expect a large Investment will be made. So we shall hope for and depend upon your utmost endeavours being exerted to answer our Expectations, We cannot as yet send a List of what Goods are to be provided; the number of Ships will determine the quantities which with the Proportions and Remarks made in the last Season's List of Investment will be your guide for the present. As to Salt Petre, you are to make a provision not only for the Ships in your department but for those also to be dispatched from our other Presidencies, agreeable to what quantities You are informed or judge shall be wanting to be sent by all early and proper Conveyances.

23. The quantity of Salt Petre to be laden on each Ship must necessarily depend upon the Bale Goods you shall be in a Condition to provide and the proportion will be more or less accordingly as part of the Charter-party Tonnage, if your Investment of Bales is considerable, in such case, you are to load on each Ship what Surplus Tonnage you shall think proper taking care however that all the Ships you are to provide for, are without partiality put upon an equal and just footing.

24. It is with real satisfaction we observe that the flourishing condition of your Presidency enabled you to transmit to Fort St. George Ten Lacks of Rupees, and allowing the President & Council of Bombay to draw upon you for five Lacks more to be forwarded to Canton, We flatter ourselves Mr. Pigot and his Council have by the happy Situation of our Affairs on that Coast made an ample addition to the said Sum remitted to them and as we have good reason to believe the circumstances of both Presidencies will not only continue to afford sufficient means for their own Investments and Expences of all kinds but also effectually supply the other Branches of our Trade

particularly that of China, you will observe therefore We sent this Season only 17 Chests of Treasure to Fort Marlborough and but Thirty Chests to China. We shall therefore depend on your best endeavours for making such timely remittances as may be necessary to whatever Place they may be wanted, and herein the China Trade must be one of your great Objects, and accordingly you must transmit to Fort St. George a sufficient Stock to enable them to send to our Supra Cargoes at Canton, on the Three Ships of this Season which are first Consigned to that Presidency Cargoes in Treasure, Redwood and other Articles proper for that Market to the amount of Thirty thousand pounds on each ship at least but an encrease of that amount will be most acceptable, and here we lay it down as a Standing Order, that you annually make an early and as large a provision of Treasure and Goods (if any proper of the latter are to be had) as can be spared to be sent on the Ships which according to our present System will call first at Fort St. George, and by such other good and timely conveyances as may offer.

25. The Cargoes of the three Ships Hawke, Falmouth & Neptune consigned to Fort St. George are to be unlivered with the utmost dispatch, & then forwarded without loss of time to Canton with Cargo consigned to our Supra Cargoes there, agreeable to our preceding directions.

26. As the Coast and Bay Ships will be partly laden for both Presidencies, you will be informed by the Invoices of the particulars consigned to you, the Cargoes intended for Bengal. We have directed the President and Council of Fort St. George to forward to you as soon as possible either by the same Ships or other Conveyances as may be most suitable.

27. Our Exports for Bombay taking up more Tonnage than is requisite for the Investments to be brought from that side of India, We dispatch two ships to our said Presidency vizt. the Lord Mansfield, and the New Ship Captain Maitland early enough to deliver their Cargoes, and be dispatched to the Coast and Bay; For this purpose we give our President and Council at Bombay Orders to forward them as soon as possible, adding it will be most agreeable to us, that they should have Loadings of Cotton and whatever else may turn to account, or let them on Freight for the run, provided this can be done in time, for their being dispatched home from Fort St. George or Bengal the same Season they arrive in India, These two Ships then are to be deemed Coast and Bay Ships, and are to bring a proportional part of the Investments from thence accordingly.

28. The two China Ships which are consigned first to Fort Marlborough are to take in all the Pepper which can be got ready in time on the West Coast to be laden on them for the Canton Market, so as that they may run no hazard of losing their Passage thither, and as we shall continue this method for the future, We take notice of it, that you may not depend upon any of your Ships filling up there for England.

29. The dispatching home to us all the Ships the same Season they arrive in India, such only as are designed for the following year expected,

being of great Consequence to the Company, We shall depend upon your strictly observing our yearly Recommendations and Orders for concerting the necessary measures with our other Presidencies for this purpose, As also for sending such Ships to China with Cargoes to the amount of Twenty thousand Pounds each as cannot otherwise be provided for, if any such there shall be, which Ships will be taken care of and returned to England by our Supra Cargoes under the usual denomination of Casual Ships.

30. Being very sensible that the variety and extention of the Business at your Presidency necessarily require an additional number of Covenant Servants to carry it on in the manner it ought to be, and as you have represented that such a number are wanted as will make your whole List amount to One hundred at least; We have fully complied with your Request by appointing Twenty-five Writers this Season to serve the Company upon the Bengal Establishment, their Names and the order they are to rank in our List of Covenant Servants are as follow vizt. John Worthington Turner, John Bathoe, Isaac Sage, Simeon Droz, Francis Law, William Weston, John Grose, Richard Witts, George Godefridus DelaGarde, Alexander Higginson, Jacob Rider, Alexander Van Rixtel, Charles Lloyd, John Hutchinson, Charles Hawkins, Blastus Godly Wright, Edward Bader, Henry Higginson, Harry Palmer, Thomas Sheeles, James Longford Whyte, Charles Goring, John Holme, Parker Hatley and William Harwood.

31. In the said List you will observe the name of Messrs. John Worthington Turner, Isaac Sage and Simeon Droz who you inform us have served as monthly Writers in your Accountant and Secretary's Offices so well as to merit notice, We have therefore complied with your recommendation by taking them into our Service.

32. And Messrs. John Bathoe, Henry Higginson, Charles Goring, John Holme and Parker Hatley who are now in India having been well recommended to us you will further observe are included in the said List.

33. The several Writers who proceed from England have entered into Covenants and given the usual Security of £500 each, for the Ships they take Passage on We refer you to the List of Passengers in the respective Packets signed by our Secretary. .

34. Such of the Writers who are abroad, mentioned in the two preceding Paragraphs must execute the Covenants sent in the Packets for that purpose which you are to see duly performed and then return to us by the first Conveyances.

35. Notwithstanding you very well know it is a Standing Rule that as our Writers come of Age they are to execute fresh Covenants, and that all our Covenant Servants in general as they advance in Station and into Council are to give the usual Security on such occasions; yet little or no regard has been paid to these necessary and indispensable Rules, as you will observe by the Lists we send you this Season, You must therefore in our Name, call

upon, and see that every Person in the said Lists executes fresh Covenants, and writes to his Friends here, to give Security as therein mentioned. Of this you are not upon any account to fail, and you are to let the Parties concerned know, we will not admit of any pretence whatsoever for a Non Compliance, and that by the very first opportunity.

36. Having by making so large an addition to our List of Covenant Servants complied with your desire in it's utmost extent, We may, with reason expect to find the Business of your Presidency effectually assisted, But it is with real concern we hear by the concurrent Testimony of almost every Person who comes from Bengal, That unless our Junior Servants are kept more strictly to their Duty we are only adding to the Company's Expence without receiving any benefit from it. It is you our Governour and Council we must and shall therefore depend upon to see that all Our Servants discharge the Duty of their several Stations with Diligence and Care, and you are to take such measures for this purpose as you shall think will be most effectual. If any of the Writers in particular do not behave to your satisfaction they must be called before you in Council and reprimanded once, twice or oftner if you shall think fit, and if that will not reclaim them you are to dismiss them from our Service and send them forthwith to England for we are determined the Company shall not any longer be burthened with useless hands.

37. We are well assured, That one great reason of the Writers neglecting the Company's Business is engaging too soon in Trade, this by the assistance of their Banians either furnishes them with the means for supporting extravagant Expences or lays an early foundation for distressed Circumstances and improper Influences, The certain consequences of both which are and must be an inattention to and neglect of the Company's Business. We therefore positively Order that none of the Writers of your Establishment have the benefit or liberty of Dustick until the times of their respective Writerships are expired and they commence Factors, with this exception however, That as some of them are older than usual in such a Station to such you may grant the said liberty or benefit of Dusticks, but herein you are to take notice it is our meaning such liberty is to extend only to the Writers who have fully attained or when they shall attain to the Age of 21 Years and not before, and provided they discharge their Duty during their continuance in the Station of Writers to your satisfaction.

38. Our said Prohibition of Dusticks is meant to extend to the Writers now in Bengal as well as those going out, but as it is possible some of the former may want them for bringing Goods out of the Country which they may have engaged for before this reaches you, in such Cases you may grant Dusticks for those particular Goods only, provided however you are satisfied they are on their own account and not on account of any other Person or Persons whatsoever, after that they are not to have the liberty or benefit of Dusticks until they attain to the age of 21 years as before directed.

39. You will do well to enquire particularly on the arrival of our several beforementioned Writers into their respective Qualifications, and Station

them accordingly to such Branches of the Company's Affairs where they may be of most Service, and as several of them have learnt to draw they may be of use in the Engineering Department, but of this you will upon such enquiry be the best Judges.

40. Besides the beforementioned Writers we have appointed Edward Stephenson to serve in that Station upon your Establishment, who is to Rank next below Henry Cottrell the last Writer upon the List who was chosen for and went to Bengal the Season before this, but in consideration of his Four years Standing as a Factor upon the Fort Marlbro' Establishment, we have agreed and accordingly direct that instead of the usual term of Five years he serve only Four years in the Station of a Writer, but if he should by that means advance to the Station of a Factor before the said Henry Cottrell or any of the Writers above him, he is notwithstanding to Rank below them upon their severally commencing Factors.

41. Mr. Francis Sykes who had your permission to come to England on account of a severe Indisposition he had for a considerable time laboured under, having recovered his Health returns to his Station on your Establishment on one of the Ships of this Season, As his Absence is not to prejudice his Standing he is to be Ranked upon the List of Covenant Servants exactly as he stood upon leaving Bengal, that is to say next below Mr. John Johnstone.

42. We approve of your sending to Fort St. George for and appointing the Revd. Mr. Samuel Staveley to be one of our Chaplains upon the Bengal Establishment upon the death of our late Chaplains Mr. Henry Butler and Mr. John Cape, and as another is wanted we have chosen the Reverend Mr. Furnivall Bowen a Gentleman extremely well recommended to us to fill that Station, he accordingly proceeds on one of the Ships of this Season as will be noticed in the Secretary's List, His Salary and Appointments are to be agreeable to the Establishment laid down in our General Letter of the 23rd of January 1759.

43. We have lent to the said Mr. Bowen Fifty pounds which he is to repay out of his growing Salary agreeable to his Bond which will be transmitted to you by the Ship he takes Passage on for your receiving that Money accordingly.

44. We are much surprized that you should think of sending to Fort St. George for Mr. More your late Chaplain to assist again in that Station considering the Directions we gave in our Letter of the 13th March 1761 as we see no reason to depart from them, he must therefore never be admitted again.

45. We have given leave to Mr. Edward Croke with his Family to settle in Bengal, as he has been a very old Servant upon the Fort St. George Establishment and in consideration of some particular Services he fendered the Company especially his declining to succeed to the Government upon the Death of Mr. Hinde, We have allowed him an Annuity for his Life from that

time of £ 200 a year, you are therefore to pay the same to him by Quarterly Payments to commence from the 25th of December 1762 when he received the last payment from us here.

46. It is very disagreeable to us to find so many Pages in your Diaries filled with Dissents and Disputes in the Transacting some interesting part of our Affairs pointed out in your Letter of the 12th November 1761, We have read and considered the whole very attentively, and must express the great dissatisfaction it has given Us to find Our Interest and the general welfare lost in these warm Altercations.

47. Major Carnac we find having raised difficulties and set up his own Judgment in opposition to the orders of the Governour and Select Committee respecting the Assistance to be afforded the Subah to oblige Ramnarain-Nabob of Patna to adjust his Accounts with him, and even to object against acting in concert with Our Chief at that Settlement; You thought it necessary to send up Colonel Coote investing him with full Powers in Civil as well as Military Affairs; this (tho' we are well acquainted with the Colonel's Abilities) was Lodging a power in Military Officers which we can never approve of, and we plainly perceive that this injudicious step gave rise to the many Disputes and Dissents that followed, for the Colonel we find soon adopted the same Difficulties, and raised the same Doubts with respect to the Orders concerning Ramnarain and besides treated the Subah on some occasions with too much warmth, and which might have had most dangerous Consequences: but not to dwell on this disagreeable part of the Affair, We say that we highly approve of the Orders the President and Council gave to set aside Ramnarain from the Nabobship and oblige him to give just Accounts to the Subah of his Government, for it appears evident he had been long treated with great lenity and Moderation, And had he behaved with a proper Subordination, and paid when so often called upon what was the Subah's just Rights from the Revenues of the Country, It might then have been right to have continued him in the Nabobship, but when he had made repeated and shameful excuses, refused for many months to produce or give in any Accounts, The Military Gentlemen pretending to protect him by virtue of an Agreement said to be made with by Colonel Clive could not have taken place with any Justice. And therefore we add that we highly approve of your continuing steadfast to the Subah and the assistance you gave to recover the just Revenues due to him, such a Conduct is surely the proper method of shewing him our determined Resolution to perform Our part of the Treaty subsisting between us, and We shall never approve of giving protection to any of his Subjects, Dependents or under Officers on any pretence, but what Justice and reason may warrant, We have in our Letter of the 13th March 1761 been very full on this Subject, And from what has passed, we are induced to repeat our Orders that you pay a due regard to them and upon all occasions adhere strictly to our Engagements with any of the Country Powers, and avoid as much as possible taking part in any disputes between the Subah and those acting under his Authority, your own Remarks

in the case of those that have been supported and found countenance from us and proving highly undeserving, confirm the Justness of these Sentiments.

48. We should have ended here what we had to say the principal occasion which brought on these Disputes but the part Messrs. Amyatt and Ellis have taken in them cannot be passed by without some notice. To do them Justice we are willing to allow they apprehended Ramnarrain ought to be supported at all Events, tho' they scarce had a Shadow of reason for such a Sentiment but on the contrary, they had sufficient to doubt of his sincerity, and the great forbearance and tenderness shewed him long before the Orders were sent for his dismissal from the Nabobship, surely Justified those that were sent for that purpose, If therefore they had duly weighed the Importance of the Affair the necessity of supporting the Subah in his Just Rights, and how necessary It was for Our Interest that he should be enabled by receiving his Just dues to make good his Engagements to us, pay his Soldiers and preserve his Authority they could not surely have dissented against the prudent and just measures which were taken with respect to Ramnarrain. The next point of their dissents is supporting the opinion of Major Carnac who declared that the Troops under his Command should not be employed in support of what he deemed to be Acts of Cruelty and Oppression which was in effect taking upon himself to be the Judge of the propriety of the Service he may be ordered upon, a pretention, we are surprized these Gentlemen should attempt to support, could they not see the Consequence, that it would be putting Our Affairs in the hands of the Military Officers, a situation quite contrary to our intentions and the very nature of our Service, And therefore we highly disapprove of Messrs. Amyatt and Ellis's Conduct for the share they took in supporting these extraordinary disputes. Altho' we disapprove of Major Carnac's Conduct as abovementioned, We have at the same time a high Opinion of his Capacity in Military Affairs, in which we must acknowledge his good Services to the Company.

49. To close the whole we do agree with you in the just Sentiments you entertain of the Character and Merit of Colonel Coote, and which on every occasion we have taken an opportunity to Express a due sense of, and therefore without making any further Remarks on the disputes that have happened, and in full persuasion such will not again happen; we shall only add, Our entire Approbation of the proper Conduct of Our President through the whole Affair, and those joined in support of this opinion which was honestly calculated, and pursued with a decent and becoming Spirit for our true Interest.

50. In answer to the 62nd Paragraph with respect to the Doubts that arose on several Points which occurred in the Council of the Debates and Dissents, and in which we again find Messrs. Amyatt and Ellis bear a principal part, We direct, If a Member of the Board thinks it proper to dissent to any Resolution, It is sufficient that his Reasons are entered after that Day's Consultation but he must nevertheless sign the Letters and Orders consequent upon that Consultation, without marking a dissent against his Name

on signing the Letters or Orders, for it is plain from Circumstances you mention which have and may occur, Orders may be disputed upon pretence of the want of the Majority of Council signing said Letters or Orders, which may be attended with bad consequences with respect to our Service, and therefore, we direct, That the Orders of the Board be made effectual by the dissenting Members signing it being sufficient that the dissents be entered as abovementioned for our Notice; And let this be a Standing Order in future.

51. The above are our Answers to the first and third points you desire our directions upon, As to the second respecting the President's Correspondence with the Country Powers we evidently see the necessity it should be carried on by him solely as it ever was the Channel, and was enforced in our Letters to the Presidency under the 1st April 1760 Para 96, which we now confirm, and positively direct be adhered to, and that no one Member of the Board presume to Correspond with any of the Nabob's Rajahs or their under Officers on any pretence whatsoever, however all the Letters the Governour writes or receives from the Country Powers must be Copied into a Book and laid before the Board as soon as it may be done with propriety for the inspection of any of the Members as has been before practised. This is so necessary to preserve the importance of Our Governour that we are surprized new Schemes or doubts should be started on this Head, and especially at this Juncture, when the Dignity of Our Government abroad ought to be supported by all reasonable and just means. And therefore for any of the Members of the Board to start these Doubts can tend only to Embarassing Government without answering any good purposes whatsoever, therefore we cannot approve of it.

52. Notwithstanding what we have said with respect to the Governour's Correspondence with the Country Powers, it is our meaning that he is not to undertake or carry into Execution thereby, any Affairs of Importance without first Communicating the same to and having the approbation and consent of a Majority of the Board, agreeable to our former Orders on this Head.

53. We observe in the 80th Paragraph of your Letter P Plassey, that you have entertained Mr. Hugh Cameron a Surveyor of New Lands; In the year 1758 or 1759 there was one Mr. Hugh Cameron a Captain in our Service at Tellicherry, where he behaved very ill, as he had done before at Bombay, and deserted Our Service by going to Cannanore and not returning again to his Duty; In case this is the same Man, We direct that he be immediately dismissed Our Service and sent home by the first Ship.

54. On considering the number of the Council that are employed at the Subordinate Factories which are generally five, we therefore direct that the number of the Council including those of the Subordinates do consist of Twelve exclusive of the Colonel and Major. This with the Orders already given that all dissenting Members shall sign to the Resolution

of the Board or Letters in consequence thereof, will obviate the Objections which you mentioned have been made for want of a proper Majority signing the Letters.

55. After the Death or Absence of Major Carnac no other Military Officer that may succeed him is to be admitted as a Member of the Board or Select Committee without our express Orders, but they are to be consulted whenever it may be judged necessary.

56. In the 113th Paragraph of your Letter P Plassey you desire our Orders concerning the payment of the Troops and Officers of Colonel Coote's Regiment, We looked into your Consultation of the 23rd September and see a Letter from Colonel Coote requesting a Compliance with what was promised him in England to have the Pay of his Regiment put on an equal footing with those of the Company's. We can by no means think the Calculate which the Colonel makes of Two shillings and four pence to the Current Rupee ought to be allowed of as our Troops are always paid in Arcot Rupees. The King's Troops can be intitled to no other manner and is agreeable to what Colonel Coote represents he was promised in England; A compliance with his desire would also be attended with many difficulties with respect to our own Military who would Justly claim to be put on the same footing with the Colonel's Regiment and we make no doubt the Colonel will be convinced of the reasonableness of our not consenting to pay his Troops in the manner he requires.

57. Having taken into Consideration the Representation in your General Letter of the 12th November 1761 relating to the want of capable Officers for the Corps of Artillery on the Bengal Establishment, and in particular that part where you say if any fit Person should offer to be Commandant of that Corps, you think it will be for the Company's Interest to engage him, And Captain William Jenings a Gentleman who has served with Ability and Reputation both upon the Fort St. George and Bengal Establishments, and on those Accounts well known to you, offering for that Station, We have thought proper to reinstate him in the Company's Service and have accordingly appointed him Captain of the First Company of Artillery in Bengal and as such of Course he is to be Commandant of the whole Corps of Artillery; he takes his Passage in the Lord Clive and his Pay is to commence upon his arrival; As Captain Jenings's Brevet from the Governour and Council of Fort William as Captain of Artillery bore date the 29th June 1758 we could not prevail on him to resume the Service without having his Rank from that time, considering the difficulty of finding a Person so well-qualified, the necessity of the case and your particular Request before-mentioned, We have agreed to his taking Rank accordingly, upon this express condition however, to which he has signified his Consent in Writing, That he is not to take Rank of Captain Randfurlie Knox a Gentleman for whom we have already expressed and still continue to have a great regard, altho' We do not think the appointment of Captain Jenings as before mentioned can give umbrage to such of Our Military Officers who have been promoted

to the Rank of Captains since that time, yet in case any Altercation or Difficulties should arise it will rest upon you and we shall accordingly depend upon your prudence, for conciliating them to this measure.

58. And in consequence of your beforementioned Request We have chosen and appointed Mr. George Burghall to be a First Lieutenant in your Artillery Corps and to succeed to the first Vacancy of Captain Lieutenant which shall happen after his arrival, he accordingly proceeds to his Station in the Deptford, This Gentleman has served in the Royal Regiment of Artillery and is well recommended to us, not only as a Capable Artillery Officer, but also as being well qualified to acquit himself in the Engineering way.

59. We have also appointed Mr. Isaac Tullie and Mr. George Hadley to be Ensigns in the Company's Forces upon the Bengal Establishment, they accordingly take their passage in the Ships Deptford and Lord Clive and are to take Rank in the abovementioned Order from the time of their arrival at Fort William next after the last Person who shall have been appointed an Ensign on our said Establishment before such their arrival.

60. By our last Letters from Fort Marlborough, we are informed, Captain Vincent has acted with great prudence and activity, and done as much as could be expected in his Situation, for facilitating a Resettlement; We have reason to think Mr. Carter and the rest of our Servants upon that Establishment will, before this reaches India, be returned to their Stations, and proceeding upon all the proper means for effectually Re-establishing our Settlements upon the West Coast of Sumatra, but as on this occasion, They will want every Assistance that can be given, what is afforded from hence will not be nearly sufficient. We shall therefore depend upon your utmost care & attention for furnishing whatever our Servants there shall desire, or you shall even without any particular Request judge necessary and as you may possibly some times have the earliest Information of their wants, therefore such of them as are not in your power to relieve, but may by our other Presidencies, you will take care to give them immediate notice of as the joint and separate endeavours of all our Presidencies, must be constantly exerted to assist and support our said Settlements.

61. We have sent by the Deptford a Bale of Cloth marked PH which has been pressed in a way never before practised in order to prevent Mildew as well as to try if they are preferred to those we usually send, There is also a Bale of Long Ells Seven Pieces with the same mark pressed by the same Man with a gloss put on them more than usual, These must be shewn to some Merchants who are accustomed to deal in Woollens, and inform us by the first Conveyance of their Opinion regarding them.

62. Upon the Application of the Friends of Mr. Charles Stafford Playdell, we have agreed to restore him to the Company's Service in the Rank and station he stood at the time of his Dismission, That is to say, in Council next below Mr. Mc Gwire, he is therefore upon your receipt of this Letter, to take his Seat accordingly. We shall expect to find, that Mr. Playdell

under a proper sense of our Lenity will behave himself in such a manner as may deserve this Mark of Our Favour.

63. By the Ships *Hawke*, *Falmouth* and *Neptune* we send about 140 Recruits for our own Troops upon the Fort St. George Establishment who are nearly divided in an equal manner upon the said Ships.

64. We send also about Sixty more for our Troops in Bengal in equal proportions by the *Plassey* and *Deptford* & have given directions to our President and Council of Fort St. George to forward them to you accordingly.

65. It is our intention to send by the next Ships to your side of India as also to Bombay such a further number of Recruits as they can conveniently take in, which will be more particularly noticed in our future Advices.

66. The Ships *Pocock* and *Glatton* carry about One hundred Recruits to our Settlements upon the West Coast.

We are

Your Loving Friends

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/Ch. Gough/Timothy Tullie/G. Steevens/Geo. Dudley/Bourchier Walton/W. Thornton/Richd. Seward
F. W. Barrington / Heny. Savage / John/Browne/Hen. Hadley/Richd. Warner/Wm. Webber/Richd. Smith/Tho. Waters/Rt. Burrow / Christr. Baron/S. Harrison / Wm. Snell.

London

17th December 1762.

Recd. }
Cons. } 14th July 1763

21

LETTER DATED 22 DECEMBER 1762

Permission for His Majesty's forces to enlist in Company's service—Col. Coote's services to be retained if possible.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. In a Short Letter of the 9th Instant we acquainted You, that application had been made to Government, relating to the Kings Troops, We are now to inform You, that His Majesty having been pleased to signify to the Right Hon'ble Lord Ligonier his intention of recalling the Four Marching Regiments, as also the Four Companies of Artillery in the East Indies, and His Majesty having been pleased to consent, that the Ensigns, Lieutenant Fireworkers, as well as the Non-Commissioned Officers & Private Men of the whole, who are disposed to enter and enlist into the

Company's Service, have his permission for same, and as it is presumed orders will be sent by The Right Hon'ble Lord Egremont on this occasion, by some of our Ships now under dispatch, it is necessary You should have this notice, that you may pursue the directions given in our said Letter of the 9th Instant. With respect to the marines on board the King's Ship We find none of them can be left behind.

2. Although Major General Lawrence and Colonel John Caillaud have Brevets as such from the King, they are the Company's Officers and in their Pay only, therefore the beforementioned Recall does not affect them.

3. But Colonel Eyre Coote, as a King's Officer it is apprehended will be directed with the others to return to England, yet as he has been appointed by Us to Command the Company's Forces upon the Bengal Establishment We should be glad he could continue in that Station, if it is consistent with His Majesty's Orders and his own Inclination which You are accordingly to Signify to him.

4. The many important Services the Company have received, by means of His Majesty's Forces ever since they have been in the East Indies, deservedly merit our most grateful Acknowledgment and Thanks, which You are to take the properest opportunity of expressing, not only to all the Commission Officers in particular, but also to the Non-Commissioned Officers and Private Men in the several Corps.

We are

Your Loving Friends

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/Timothy Tullie/
Wm. Snell/John Manship/Bourchier Walton/
F. W. Barrington/Cha. Gough/G. Steevens/
Hen. Hadley/Richd. Smith/John Browne/
Chrstr. Baron/Rt. Burrow/Wm. Webber/
Will. Barwell/ Richd. Warner/S. Harrison.

London
22nd Decemr. 1762.

LETTER DATED 29 DECEMBER 1762

Uncertainty regarding the treaty with France.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

Since closing our last Letters some particular Circumstances have occurred with respect to that part of the Treaty with France which relates to Our Company's Affairs, and there being a Current Report that a large Number of Ships are fitting out there designed for the East Indies, until

therefore We have some Ecclaircissements [*sic*] on these Points it will be highly necessary for all Our Presidencies to be well on their Guard. You are therefore not to proceed upon the Reduction of Our Forces until You hear further from Us, for although We are in hopes the Ministry will settle Matters with the Court of France to Our Satisfaction yet nothing can be absolutely depended upon until the definitive Treaty is Signed. You are therefore to be very watchful to prevent any unjustifiable Steps which the French may endeavour to take before you can have Notice of the said Treatys being Exchanged and Ratified by the several Powers, and it is further recommended to you not to give Credit to any other Notices than those you will receive from us.

We are

Your Loving Friends

Thos. Rous / John Dorrien / John Browne/
 Heny. Savage/John Manship/Christ. Baron/
 Wm. Webber/G. Steevens/F. W. Barrington/
 Robt. Burrow / Will. Barwell / Hen. Hadley/
 Timothy Tullie/S. Harrison / Tho. Waters/
 Richd. Warner / Cha. Gough / Geo. Dudley.

London
 29th December 1762.

23

LETTER DATED 9 MARCH 1763

Shipping news—particulars of exports—instructions regarding manufacture of gunpowder—instructions regarding investment—Court's views on territorial acquisitions—Shah Alam's sanad to Mir Qasim—refusal of Diwani approved—Company's relations with Shah Alam—fulfilment of obligations by Mir Qasim—concern over disobedience of orders regarding restitution fund—presents for the King of Burma—papers necessary for peaceful settlement of disputes with the Dutch—concern over expenditure involved in fortifying Fort William—satisfaction at increase in revenues of Burdwan, Chittagong and Midnapore—special seals for Bengal Government—allowances to Vansittart and the Chief of Chittagong—attempts by Company's servants to procure trade privileges for themselves resented—military recruits for various Presidencies—grant of double batta criticised—economy in military expenditure urged—instructions regarding payments to His Majesty's forces—irregularities in accounts of French prisoners of war—terms for renting out lands in Kharijuri pargana—legal position regarding by-laws for public works—His Majesty's forces to be recalled from East Indies.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1*. The Letters we have writ to you this Season by the way of Aleppo, the Liverpoole Man of War and our own Ships the Deptford, Plassey and

*To avoid repetition summaries in one of the copies of the letter have been deleted.

Falmouth bear date[s] the 30th of November, the 9th, 17th, 22nd and 29th of December last.

2. You will receive this Letter in Triplicate by the Ships Lord Clive, British King, and Pigot, which contains our further Directions and Informations with some observations which have occurred upon the perusal of your several Advices received in the course of last Season which are arranged under the usual Heads.

First of Shipping

3. You have been already informed of the Ships arrived last Season from our several Settlements and China so far as to the 12th of January. We have now the pleasure of informing you that the Calcutta from Bombay got safe to Kinsale on the 11th of December, at the time she left St. Helena, which was the 3rd of October no Ship was there. The Calcutta Ships Company has been greatly reduced by Mortality, and distressed by the sickness which prevailed among the Survivors.

4. Since our Last Advices we have taken up another Ship vizt. the Pitt Capt. Joseph Jackson Commander at the Burthen of 499 tons (tho' in her former Voyages let for more) carrying 99 Men and 26 Guns, upon the same terms and conditions as the other Ships, and shall consign her first to Fort St. George, One principal object of her Voyage being to carry about 300 Recruits for our Forces on the Fort St. George Establishment.

5. As it may be necessary upon the conclusion of the present Negotiation with France to send to our Settlements some particular information and directions, We have thought proper to buy a Sailing Vessel for this purpose to be ready to proceed at the shortest notice. She is called the Lapwing Burthen 120 Tons carries 10 Guns, is Navigated with 21 Men and Commanded by Captain John Griffin.

6. The Pursers of the following Ships receiv'd the Dispatch from hence on the 24th of December vizt. The Egmont for St. Helena & China, the Falmouth, Neptune and Hawke for Fort St. George, and the Ships Deptford and Plassey for Fort St. George and Bengal, they sailed from Spithead vizt. the Egmont, the 1st & the Hawke, and Neptune, and Plassey the 2nd and the Deptford and Falmouth the 12th of January, His Majesty's Ship the Liverpoole sailed from Plymouth on the 20th of the same month.

7. After a great loss of time by a very severe Frost which occasioned an entire stop to Navigation in the River Thames, those Ships were followed by the Cruttenden for St. Helena and China, the Havanna directly for China, and the Glatton and Pocock for the West Coast and China, whose Commanders received their Dispatches in and sailed from the Downes the first the 1st* and the others next day.

*The other copy has 'the second the 13th'.

8. The next division of Ships and which are now under dispatch consists of the three Ships Lord Clive, British King and Pigot for Fort St. George and Bengal, and the Lord Mansfield and Bute for Bombay which are to proceed on their Voyages from the Downes.

9. The only ships remaining are the other four Bombay Ships Talbot, Earl of Middlesex, the Speaker and Latham, also the Pitt for Fort St. George, all which we shall get away as soon after as possible.

10. As the Ships now under dispatch for your side of India are partly laden with Consignments for Fort St. George and Bengal and have some Bales on board for Bombay, we must refer you to the respective Invoices for the particulars and to the Directions in our Letter of the 17th Decr. as to the manner of forwarding the said Consignments.

11. Having given you notice by the said Letter that besides the five Ships bound directly to the Coast and Bay the beforementioned two Ships Lord Mansfield and Bute are to be laden home from your side of India, we shall depend therefore upon your having made the necessary Dispositions for that purpose in conjunction with our Presidency of Fort St. George, and we flatter ourselves the Circumstances of both Presidencies will be such as to furnish full returning Cargoes for all the seven Ships.

12. However should it so happen that for want of Cargoes all the said Ships cannot be dispatched home as recommended, and there shall be a necessity of keeping any one of them a season longer, in such case we recommend the Lord Clive to be employed on a Country Voyage in such a manner as will be most advantageous to the Company until the proper time of dispatching her the following Season.

13. With respect to the Ship Pitt after the President & Council of Fort St. George have landed the Soldiers and received the several Consignments mentioned in her Invoice and Bill of Lading, all which must be done with the utmost expedition, they are to lade on her any Goods which can be immediately ready proper for the China Market, together with as much Treasure, in addition to such Treasure as is intended to be put on board her here, as they can conveniently spare, and give the Commander Orders to make the best of his way to Canton, consigning the whole to Our Supra Cargos there. If our Letter reaches Fort St. George as we suppose it will before the arrival of the Pitt, the President & Council are to make the necessary Dispositions for expediting her Voyage, as it is intended she shall arrive in China early enough to be returned to Us the same Season; Capt. Jackson having assured Us, that by proceeding in the Track that Ship went the last Voyage but one, he made no doubt of his being able to perform it in the said time, Capt. Jackson is in the course of his Voyage to make such Discoveries & Observations as may facilitate the Navigation in the said Track in future and thereby render the going to and return from China practicable in any Season of the Year.

14. The reason for limiting the dispatch of our Ships from the Bay of Bengal for Europe, by the Clause in the Charterparty, so as they shall not be

deliver'd to the Commander before the 21st day of November nor after the 11th day of March, is upon a supposition that the intermediate time is the only proper Season for a Ship to get out of that Bay, so as to save the Monsoon and notwithstanding this might probably be effected either before or after those days, and be attended with great convenience to the Company, We apprehend the Owner of the Ships would be unwilling to alter those Clauses, as there is a possibility that an early or late dispatch may be attended with difficulties and loss of time in gaining the Passage, We can therefore only recommend to you, if it is convenient for the Company's Service to dispatch a Ship between the 11th day of March and 21st day of November, that you tender the Commander his Dispatches, & if he makes any objection to the receiving them, you must nevertheless deliver them to him, and refer the objections to be adjusted between the Company and Owners in England.

15. We are much concerned to find the loss that happened to Us, by the Fattee Salam Foundering at Sea, The Examination you made of the Captain is very imperfect, on perusing his Letter it appears very clearly, that from the first he managed very badly, and at last quitted the Ship sooner than he ought to have done, had you ordered the Master Attendant and some other Seafaring Men to examine into this Affair, & made their Report, we should have had a much better insight into this matter than we now have, for we do not see from what cause this disaster happened, & which we very sensibly feel in the loss both of Military Stores and Men.

16. Last year we gave particular Orders to Our Servants at Bombay to build for your Settlement as soon as possible the Schooners you wanted for the River Service, If you find you can build Vessels at Chittagong which we observe you had given orders for, we should imagine they will come out cheaper than at Bombay, where the prices of Timber are greatly enhanced of late, and therefore if from the Experiment you find the Vessels will answer your purpose you must continue to Build such as You may want at that Place, & in every other Respect you must use your best endeavours to make that Settlement & Country as advantageous to us as possible.

17. If the Syren Snow will answer the purpose you mention you have our permission to keep her for that Service.

18. We are in hopes the Vessels you have lately bought for the River Service are such as will answer the purpose, and that proper care was taken to prevent our being imposed upon in the prices. In future the following Orders must be on all such occasions strictly adhered to, that not only the Master Attendant but the Head Carpenters employed in the yard and some Seafaring Men make a Survey and Report the Condition and value of each Vessel to be purchased before the Contract is made which must then be entered in your Consultations.

19. In regard to the Ship King of Prussia which you treat of in the 20th Paragraph of your Letter by the Hawke we think the reasons you have given for permitting the Supra Cargos to transact their Business at Calcutta ha

some weight, as it appears their chief design was what you mention to wind up their Affairs and Withdraw their Effects from Bengal, however in future we must strictly enjoin you to attend to the repeated Orders we have given not to countenance or have any dealings with Foreigners as you must be sensible many inconveniences may arise to us if such should find Countenance from any of our Servants.

20. We recommend it to you as the most eligible method for procuring a proper number of Seafaring Men to be brought up in the River Service, and thereby securing a Succession of good Pilots, that you apply to the Commander of each Ship returning to Europe, to spare one capable Person from his Ship's Company for this Employ, to whom you are to make such an Allowance as you shall find merits, that the Owners may be at no Expence thereby, you are to assure the Commander in our Name that the Company will pay the Expence of the Hire, Wages, Maintenance in England & Passage back to India of such Lascar as may be hired in the room of the Person so discharged from the Company's Service deducting therefrom what would have been paid him if he had not been detained in India.

21. We shall expect the Master Attendant performs what he promises of having a due regard for our Interest, for from the state of your Marine it appears to be an object very material, from the great Number of Vessels we observe are now employed, but as you seem at least to be satisfied with it we must suppose there are no more than what are absolutely necessary, but if when Peace takes place they can be reduced with propriety, we hope you will have due attention to it, as well as the heavy Expences being made as easy to us as possible by a proper inspection into the different branches.

22. Our former directions for loading a surplus Tonnage of 25 Tons in order to make good the Wastage and deficiency in weighable Goods and thereby prevent our paying for dead Freight were very full, and we think it proper here to repeat the same, that you may always take care to comply with them in future.

23. The Register of all Private Trade taken on board Our Ships on account of the Captains and Officers is a Duty strictly required by the Company's By Laws, for the neglect whereof very heavy Penalties are thereby inflicted, as well as in the Charterparties and Captains Instructions, the Return to us of such Registers regularly and in Duplicate is a point of much importance, that has consequentially more than once been required at your hands yet you have sometimes failed therein, particularly by the Hawke and Warren, therefore, observe that we insist upon the most exact Obedience in future to those strict Injunctions.

Secondly of Goods from Europe or from one part of India to another

24. Having in our Letter of the 17th of December given you a general Account of Our Exports this Season we have only to refer you to the respective Invoices of the several Ships as they arrive for particulars, from which you

will find we have complied with your Indents as far as circumstances would admit.

25. The Indent for Stationary will be fully complied with, The disappointment you experienced of a supply of this Article, of Medicines and several other particulars by the early Ships of 1760 is to be attributed to the very large Tonnage then required for his Majesty's Stores and the number of Recruits at that time embarked for the King's Battalions on those Ships, and the same reasons subsisted with respect to the latter Ships, as is evident from the Norfolk and Chesterfield being laden with Goods and Stores which were originally intended for the others but could not be taken on board for want of room.

26. The Deptford and Plassey carried this Season all the Medicines for your Presidency, One half of the Medicines went on the Plassey & on both those Ships were put as great a variety of Stores as could be procured in time. To the equal division of the Stationary on the several Ships as desired in your Letter of the 14th December there lays an objection, for the putting any on board a New ship is not so proper when it can be avoided, which cannot be done this year for four of the five Ships consigned to Bengal being on their first Voyages the remainder of the Stationary is necessarily sent on one of them the Lord Clive.

27. The size of the Masts, Yards and Sparrs not being described in the Indents, they are continued to be sent of the same Dimensions as have been usually provided, We require you hereafter to transmit the particular Dimensions that none may be sent out that are improper for your Purpose.

28. To obviate the Difficulties in receiving Copper Iron and Lead from the Europe Commanders by the Country Weights, we are desirous those Articles should be received by you from the Commanders of Our Ships in the same manner as they are weighed to them here, that is

Copper about 5 cwt. at a draught, allowing One pound on every Five hundred Weight,

Iron about 5 cwt. at a draught, allowing two pounds on every Five hundred Weight, and

Lead Ten Pigs* at a draught using no Weights under four pounds but making no other Allowances.

29. For the above purposes are sent Eight Setts of Iron Avoirdupois Weights with a proportion of Small Weights to each Sett and two scale Beams with Boards and Iron Chains (instead of Ropes) to weigh from 15 cwt. to a Ton at a draught, and to adjust the above Weights are likewise Sent a Sett of Brass Standard Weights with Scales.

30. Twenty-four Coppers for refining Petre would have been sent if they could have been made in time, as the case stands We are at present able to send you only four Nests consisting of four each.

*equal to 154 lbs.

31. Having very attentively considered Mr. Amphlett's Letter, we are of opinion his representation that the Iron Work annually sent out for Gun Carriages and Iron Trucks is useless, must be a mistake, as those Articles are of equal goodness and the same as used in the Government's Service. In regard to the Heavy Artillery represented by him as necessary for the Works at Bengal, the Governour and Council of Bombay will be directed from hence to supply you with such as they can conveniently spare, on an Indent which you must take care to send thither to be made in consequence of your real occasion, observing that we send by these Ships such Heavy Cannon as have been provided and could not be got ready last year.

32. On examination into the Complaint made of the Small Arms you received in the Year 1760, We have been assured by the Surveyor of them and the Gun Makers that those Arms were very carefully examined, but that the Iron used for Locks in the latter end of the year 1759 proved in general very indifferent, so much so, that the Government found it necessary to send Iron from London to Birmingham for making Gun Locks; this method is observed with the Locks for the Company, which being made by the same persons as are employed by the Government it is hoped will prevent any future complaints.

33. The Sales you have made of Europe Goods we observe are for lower prices than usual, which we judge must have happened from the causes you mention, but we are sorry to find that Long Ells are not in demand which you assign no reason for, this we shall be glad to have by the first ship, with your opinion at the same time, whether any kind of other Woollen Stuffs of a thinner fabrick, such as Shalloons &c will answer for the Market if you find any such will do, you must send a Pattern or Sample and we shall comply as soon as possible both as to fabrick and Colours. The same method we would have recommended to Our Servants at the Subordinate Factories, that no means may be left untried to promote the sale of the Woollen Manufactures.

34. Agreeable to your 38th Paragraph P Hawke we have sent a larger Quantity of Small Anchors than usual of the Sizes you mentioned.

35. Having procured Assays to be made of the Musters of Sicca and Arcot Rupees coined in your Mint & transmitted to Us by the Hawke, we now send you an Account thereof Signed by our Accountant, by which you will observe both sorts are deficient in fineness and the Arcot Rupees likewise in weight which you will take care to have remedied in your future Coinage as the Reputation of the Mint must by all means be preserved.

36. All the Utensils wanted for the Mint are now sent agreeable to the Indent of the Assay Master, Alexander Campbell now designed for Fort William, which has been complied with in every Article.

37. In regard to the Mint we are sorry to find that it is rather a losing Branch than otherwise in the present State but as you give us reason to hope

that hereafter, when Bullion becomes more plenty, it will then become of more consequence we must wait the Event, but at the same time we think you have acted properly on this occasion, we must depend in a great measure upon your management of this branch under the Orders you had from us in our Letter of the 3rd March 1758, Pars. 124 to 129 in which we have been very full.

38. The Regulations you have made in the Mint especially regarding the Coinage of Gold, we approve of for the present, but expect you will make such alterations as you may hereafter find necessary, which we must leave to your discretion, as being the best Judges what charges may be necessary to establish so as to satisfy those who bring their Money into it.

39. Your Indent of Stores for the Artillery has been considered and we have ordered such part of it to be complied with as the Tonnage of the Ships designed for your side of India will admit, at the same time however we must remark this Indent is signed only by the Assistant to the Military Store Keeper and Commissary of Artillery and appears to be drawn out with very little attention & without reflecting on the real improbability that such an Indent could be complied with. To instance in a few particulars out of many, Two thousand Barrels of Powder are requested, One hundred Barrels are as much as one Ship can possibly take with convenience and to enable her to do that the Owners are obliged to enlarge the Powder Room, Two hundred Chaldron of Coals is another Article in the Indent; this is as much as we can well send in all our Ships to all parts of India Eight hundred Bolts of Canvas and Vitry together with Small Arms and several other particulars which might be mentioned, are such an amazing Quantity as must far exceed your annual wants, one circumstance particularly remarkable is, that many Articles of this Indent are such as should with more propriety come into the Indent for General Stores, and many of them have been put into the Marine Indent, to this we must add we see no account of Remains of Artillery Stores, nor is the least notice taken of the use the Stores Indented for may be applied to, Such remarks and a view of Remains would furnish us with a proper Idea of your wants, and we could form a pretty good Judgment of the propriety and reasonableness of your Indents, and we think no Articles should be suffered to be inserted in the Military Indent that have been or should be desired in general or other Stores. On the whole you should practise what is done at the other Presidencies namely that when an Indent is framed by the proper officers and a true Account of Remains laid before the Board you will be enabled to judge of the propriety of the demand made, it should then be signed by the Governour and Council whereupon it will have its due weight with Us.

40. It was with much difficulty we could procure a Person who had any tolerable knowledge of the method of making Powder in England. Mr. William Smith who was sent to your Presidency about two years since was recommended to us as one who had been employed for some years in that branch of Business and was in a good degree Master of the whole progress practised here in making.

Powder, so that as we find he is arrived with you, and carried out with him every thing he indented for, or was thought necessary for that Service, we shall hope to hear he will in a great measure answer our expectation and so improve and bring to Perfection this important Article, as to render your demand of Powder from hence much less, consequently ease the great charge we are at in sending it out for we cannot but think as the principal Ingredients are to be had with you at very easy Rates it will not cost us half of what it does here.

41. By the Ships arrived from you this Season we have received several Letters from Mr. Smith promising his best endeavours to answer our Expectations, but as the necessary works for this Service were not quite completed, he had not been able to send a sample of the Powder of his making for us to judge of his performance, and in many parts of his Letter he complains that you have appointed one Mr. Costelly as Assistant to him who before his arrival had the principal overseeing of the Powder Works, but who now gave him some interruptions, we are by no means inclined to favour complaints coming to us in this manner, and ever are willing to believe that the Grounds of them proceed from a needless dissatisfaction not from any thing real, however we hope (as you must be sensible we have been at a very great charge) you will use your best endeavours and so far countenance and comply with Mr. Smith's reasonable Requests that we may not be disappointed in Our expectation, as it is besides an Affair of such great importance in respect to the general Service, and you must let him know from us that whatever he has to offer in future is to come to us through you.

42. The Samples of Powder we have received have been tried at the King's Magazine by the Prevet, an Instrument by which all Powder is proved before it is received into His Majesty's Stores, and both the Cannon and fine Powder appeared by that trial to be unfit for any service. The Board of Ordnance here receive no Powder but what goes two Inches in the Prevet, and that you sent did not go one, Another Experiment was made, at Woolwich by the King's Officers of Artillery there, by firing an Howitzer of Eight Inches and the Remarks made on the strength of your Powder by those Officers are enclosed for the information of the Officers with you that act in that branch of Service. And from these Instances you will evidently see the urgent necessity there is for all imaginable Attention to improve this Article, and therefore if you find Mr. Smith capable of such Service we persuade ourselves you will not discourage his endeavours but promote them to the utmost of your power in every thing that is reasonable. And that you may have the best information we have been able to procure we must tell you that the Salt Petre and Brimstone may be properly refined and which [*sic*] the Samples we received from you with the Powder were judged to be so by the people belonging to one of the largest Powder Works in England, yet if the Charcoal should be faulty the Powder cannot be good, and the Sample of Charcoal received with the above appeared to be highly so, it was burnt to a mere Calx and had no strength in it at all, You will receive a small Cask of Charcoal which the best

Powder Maker uses here, you will observe tho' the Wood is burnt thro' some substance is preserved in it and when you break it there is retained a Glossy Oilly [*sic*] appearance, some attention is also necessary with regard to the Wood the Charcoal is to be made of. There were eight different sorts sent by you which have been examined by the Charcoal Burners, and the four sorts which were particularly noted to be the Woods Mr. Costelly used when he had charge of your Powder Works were wholly disapproved of, as being in general too heavy and knotty; the softer kind of Wood is better liked, if after burning it shews some strength, and therefore the Woods proposed & intended by Mr. Smith to make his Charcoal are thought to be the best and named by him Gangway, Bollaht Nisindra, Cowrah, We should end here what we have to say on this Subject trusting to your serious Attention & Endeavours to improve this material Branch to the utmost, but we cannot omit adding that Our Engineer at Madras Major Call has sent us a very sensible account of the method he practises to make Powder there, and among the rest of his observations he gives a particular Account of the proportion of Petre, Brimstone and Charcoal used in making five hundred Pounds or five Barrels English of Powder, and we are informed those Proportions are well adapted to that quantity, which we thought proper to hint, that the Powder maker may try the Experiment agreeable to the beforementioned Proportions.

43. We are pleased to find by the Engineer's Report entered on your Consultation of the 6th of April, that the Chittagon Timbers which he surveyed proved so good, and we suppose you have ordered the quantity and sorts he desired to be provided and as there can be no doubt of their being floated to Calcutta they will consequently turn out much cheaper than any we have before had from Mergui or Pegue and lessen our dependance on that Government for this useful article & therefore we recommend it to you to encourage the getting them on the best terms you can, and in such quantities as to have always in Store a Stock of Seasoned Timber for your several works.

44. We have already recommended to you in the Strongest manner to give all possible Assistance to Our Settlements upon the West Coast of Sumatra and we shall accordingly depend upon your punctually complying with our said Recommendations. You say in your Letter of the 12th November you were preparing a supply of Artificers, Rice, and Stores to be sent thither with all possible expedition, and we have the satisfaction of finding by your Consultations they were accordingly forwarded thither by the Fox.

Thirdly of Investments

45. We now send you the List of the Investment to be made at your Presidency to the Observations & Directions therein contained you are to give all due attention & Obedience.

46. By our Accounts from Holland we are not a little surprized to find that the Dutch have been able to procure in Bengal a much larger proportion

of fine Goods than you have sent us, and yet at the same time Complaints have been handed to us from the Dutch Company suggesting that their Servants had met with unwarrantable Interruptions to their Investments as done by some of Our Servants. This is so irreconcilable that we are not able to Account for their success, in getting such quantities of fine Goods. If their Complaints are Just, and yet that you should be able to send us a proportion so short of Our Orders, This gives us some Suspicion that our Interest is sacrificed to Private advantage and that even some of our Servants have in this case assisted the Dutch as we have reason to suspect such has been practised formerly.

47. The Musters of Chittagong Cloth we received and answer very well at this Market, for further Remarks we shall refer you to the List of Investment, But shall not omit expressing our satisfaction of hearing from you such Commendations of the Diligence of the Chief & ca. there, we desire they may be acquainted with our entire approbation of their Conduct, and must recommend them to exert themselves to enlarge this Branch of Trade in particular, for it being a new thing will require greater inspection and exactness than if it had been some years established.

48. The Providing a sufficient Quantity of Salt Petre not only for the Ships to be dispatched from Bengal directly but also to enable Our other Presidencies to give the Ships on their hands the necessary proportions is a measure of great importance and must be carefully attended to, we have most severely suffered by a want of this Article at Fort St. George the Ships Falmouth and Prince Edward being dispatched home about 250 Tons each short of their Charterparty Tonnage for which we are obliged to pay near Nine Thousand Pounds dead Freight to the Owners of each Ship; This circumstance is the more aggravating as we have been at a very great Expence in paying for the Passage of the many French Prisoners those Ships brought to England.

49. To prevent such a misfortune in future your endeavours to encrease the investment of Salt Petre by getting Grants for purchasing at Gauzapoor Auzem and elsewhere cannot but meet with our approbation.

50. We had great hopes your Finances would have furnished you with the means of sending Us by the Ships Plassey, Earl of Holderness, Hawke and Warren a much larger proportion of Bale Goods, instead of lading upon them such great quantities of Salt Petre to make up their Tonnage as Three hundred Tons each the Whole profits upon which Articles are too inconsiderable and go but a little way towards the Payment of the Ships Freights. In Fact the Revenues at your Presidency have had little share in providing the said Ships Cargoes as it appears the Bills you have drawn upon us by them amount to near Eighteen Thousand pounds more than the total Invoice prices of all their Cargoes, undoubtedly the dispatching as large a number of Ships as possible is a very laudable measure, but then we ought reasonably to expect more real Advantages therefrom than we have found the last Season.

51. As you were in want of Salt Petre to make up the Warren's Tonnage on that account only your sending the Eighteen hundred Maunds of the Purnea can be allowed to be a proper measure, the abatement of two Rupees in the price being by no means an Equivalent for the badness of the quality and the quantity of Dirt mixed with it, especially when it is considered we pay Duties and Freight for the Dirt equally with the Petre, nothing but necessity therefore must induce you for the future to deviate from the Directions in our Letter of the 1st of April 1760 for sending us Petre as refined as possible.

Fourthly of the Country Government

52. It gives us great pleasure to find by your Letter of the 5th June 1761 and by all your subsequent advices that the Country enjoys a perfect Tranquility; We earnestly recommend that you use your best endeavours to keep it so, as the only means to secure to us the Advantages we may hope for, and which we have in some degree experienced by the Investment you have made (though not adequate to our expectations as noticed under the Third Head) and the agreeable assistance you have given Madras and Bombay to furnish Money for our China Ships which were to be dispatched from thence, & as your sentiments respecting the Conduct to be held towards the Country Government & adopted by you coincide so fully with our orders in our Letter under the 13th March 1761 we shall not enlarge on this subject.

53. From the general view you have given us in your 56,57,58 Paras. of your Advices by the Hawke, with respect to your Transactions with the Shawzadah who had been proclaimed King at Delhi, as well as from the several Proceedings on the same Subject, which appear at large in your Select Committee's Diary, we observe Major Carnac & Colonel Coote were both very solicitous to have engaged in the Project of accompanying the King to the Capital with a Body of Our Forces, however we are better pleased that the King left the province without our being obliged to engage in such a hazardous Enterprize, and had Colonel Coote's Regiment arrived before the urgency of the King's Affairs required his moving forward to the Capital, yet we should have hoped you would not even then have been tempted to engage in so distant an Undertaking, but have contented yourselves with the right step you have taken in treating that Prince with all due respect during his stay in the Province of Bengal and escorting him with a proper Force to the Borders, for in short our Sentiments are, That if we can secure our present Possessions and Privileges in Bengal, preserve the Peace of the Province and the Nabob in the Government and Prevent the Borders from being Invaded or Disturbed by the Neighbouring Rajahs or other powers, we shall be fully Satisfied, and think our Forces Judiciously employed in answering these principal Points, for we are by no means desirous of making further Acquisitions or engaging our Forces in very distant projects, unless the most absolute necessity should require it to answer one or other of the principal Views aforementioned.

54. The Sunnuds being sent by the King to the Nabob for the three Provinces¹ is a very agreeable Circumstance, altho' you do not mention in the General Advices any Complaints that the Nabob made on his being obliged to purchase those Grants at a much greater Expence to him after the King passed the Borders, than he would have had them for while the King was at Patna, if the Nabob had been properly supported in his pretensions by our Commanding Officer then there, yet some thing of this appears in your Diaries and if true, Surely our Force and Influence were not so effectually applied as they might have been, & altho we are unwilling to pass a Censure on any particular Person on this point, yet we hope to have no occasion in future even for a doubt that the Interest of a *Prince* we are so closely connected with by Treaty has been Slighted, for if the Difficulties are multiplied upon him, and his Power and Influence not supported by us, when he wants our Assistance he must suffer by such measures, as our Interest must likewise do in the end.

55. Your refusal of the Duannee of Bengal offered by the King was certainly right, and we are well satisfied with the Just and prudent Reasons you give for declining that offer, however it seems something extraordinary to us that at the time the King makes this advance, he should return the applications made to him, for the Sunnuds to confirm our privileges and Possessions in Bengal Granted by the late and present Nabob in so loose and unsatisfactory a manner, and even to require a Piscash or Present before he passes the Order in due Form. The Great Services we had rendered his Majesty, and the Generous treatment he met with from us as well as from our Ally the Nabob during his stay at Patna surely claimed a more distinguished Treatment, and at least a full Grant of our Requests without such an expensive demand annexed. The Time and manner of the Refusal seem likewise very extraordinary, your applications being returned at the very Juncture Major Carnac was escorting him to the Caramnassa or Borders of the Province, Service which must then be fresh in the King's Memory, and therefore we think there is reason to apprehend the King is not so cordially attached to us as we might have expected, however if you judge the obtaining such Sunnuds to be absolutely necessary, you have, we doubt not, continued your Application to have them perfected. It was a prudent Consideration in you to add to your Applications on this Subject Our Ally Alli Verdi Cawn otherwise called Mahmud Ally Cawn as Nabob of Arcot, which we suppose you have or will continue to do when you think it proper to move again in this Affair, & if the King should succeed in his pretensions to the Throne the sooner the Grants are obtained the less we apprehend will be the Expence attending it;

56. We have received the continuation of the Statement of the Nabob's Debt, as the Committee of your Board have fully digested it in the Books kept for that purpose closed the 1st of October, together with their Report and as the Nabob has since fully compleated the Payment of his whole Debt, we shall only express our Satisfaction at your Attention to this part of our Service.

57. The General Debt from the Nabob being so cleared, as noted above, and consequently what becomes due on account the European Sufferers, Natives and Armenians is not clearly liquidated as stated in your 64th Paragraph, we shall only say we gave such full and explicit Directions in this Subject in our Letter of the 19th February 1762 by the Walpole, Hardwicke & ca. that we shall not now say any thing more concerning it, but wait your answer thereto, when we shall have a clearer view of what directions to give you with respect to Mr. Van Staden's demands^a or any thing else that may arise on this Subject.

58. In our former Letters as well as in that of the 19th February 1762 we were very full and explicit concerning the Surplus Money from the Restitution Fund. But by your Letter of the 12th November 1761 we find that our Orders are not likely to be complied with, as the European Fund appears at that time reduced to about 58,000 Rupees and before this we suppose even that Sum has been paid.

59. So total a disregard to our repeated Directions on that Head founded on the strictest Justice cannot but fill us with surprize and concern. The least we could have expected was, that you should have assigned some weighty reason for acting so directly contrary to the tenor of our Instructions.

60. It was properly Judged in you to send a small present to the King of Pegue^a, and we hope you will obtain by it the permission you wanted, to bring away the Timber lying there for our Account, and you will do well to keep in Memory whenever a fair opportunity offers to obtain Satisfaction for the Massacre of our People at the Negrais.

61. The Advance you made to the French Families of One Thousand Rupees P month we observe you were induced to do it from the consideration of their great Poverty & Distress however if any opportunity offers for your lessening this Charge by any of them getting into a way of providing for themselves or otherwise, we hope you will do so, for it is very doubtful if we shall ever obtain a Repayment of this Expence either from the French Company or their Government, yet be careful to send us a particular Account of this Expence that we may make a proper demand of it as occasions may offer.

62. Your Answer to the Dutch Deputation on their Apprehensions of a War between us and the States in Europe was very proper, and we also approve of the Representations you have made to the General and Council at Batavia in regard to their Proceedings on the West Coast after the Capture of our Settlements there by the French, we are likewise well pleased to find you have kept up a proper harmony with the Dutch Government at Bengal.

63. You were acquainted in our Letter of the 2d of April last that the Differences between this Company and that of the Dutch relative to their Affairs in Bengal were to be adjusted by Commissaries on the part of each

Company, Our Commissaries on this occasion are Thomas Rous, John Dorrien and Laurence Sullivan Esqrs. and those for the Dutch are Messrs. Thimon Van Schoonhoven, Peter Duvelaer Van Campen and Cornelis Van der Hoop, The Conferences were begun at this House in August last and have been continued to this time wherein the several matters contained in the Memorials which were transmitted to you last Season have been thoroughly discussed but nothing as yet determined. When any thing material happens in this Negotiation we shall send you the necessary Informations and Directions, in the mean time We shall depend upon receiving the several proofs order'd by our Letters of last Season that we may in all Events be able to support whatever we have advanced in our Memorial and be Masters of such further Facts as are any way relative to the differences & transactions with the Dutch, and in particular it is necessary you should send us the following Paper as soon as possible. A proper Authentication of Mr. Bisdom's Letters (No. 6 in the Appendix to our Memorial) and the Original Agreement between the Dutch and Nabob mentioned in the last of those Letters, but if the Original cannot be transmitted, we would have a Copy. We would likewise have a Copy of the Dutch Arzee (No. 11 in the said appendix) if the Original wrote for last year cannot be sent us, and as the true meaning of the Word in the first Article, which is render'd Preference, is much disputed between us and the Dutch, it is very important to have that Ascertained in particular, As must likewise be the exact time the Dutch Vackeel presented that Arzee to the Nabob, the Dutch Commissaries having denied that their Vackeel delivered such an Arzee to Jaffier Ally Cawn, altho' they admit that one much to the same purport was presented by their Servants to Souraja Dowla in the month of February 1757 of which last you are also to endeavour to get a Copy. We can come at no Information concerning the 13th Article of the Treaty with Jaffier Ally Cawn (a Copy whereof is in the Appendix to the Dutch Company's Report No. 9) you must therefore after a proper Enquiry, acquaint us if such an Article did ever exist and if it did, give us a Copy. The Company's Grant from Jaffier Ally Cawn for the exclusive purchase of Salt Petre, we have never received a Translation of, which must be sent with a Copy, And in all the beforementioned Instances whether the Originals or Copies are sent, you must not fail to give us an English Translation of them. Lord Clive's Correspondence with the Country Government since the 24th January 1759 has not been transmitted to us, you must therefore supply this omission if possible, his Lordship's Letter to which No. 12 in Our Appendix is supposed in Answer being particularly wanted Jaffier Ally Cawn and any other proper Persons must be applied to for obtaining such of the abovementioned Articles as they can furnish, and you are to be particularly careful in getting the said Originals, Copies and Translations Authenticated in the best manner possible, observing that the Copies and Translations are to be forwarded to Us in Duplicate at least.

64. When we came to proceed with the Dutch Commissaries upon an Enquiry into the Complaints of both Companies of Interruption in their Cloth Trade it was admitted that the Servants of both Companies may at

times have acted improperly to serve their own Interest & it was promised that the strongest Injunctions should be transmitted by each Company to its Servants to give no just cause of Complaint for the future. You are therefore hereby positively order'd to conform to this Determination in the strictest manner possible.

65. We shall reserve what we have to say with respect to the French and the Treaty of Peace between Great Britain, France and Spain for the Supplement to this Letter, or for a Separate Letter on the occasion, as we are desirous of giving you the necessary informations and Directions thereon to as late a Period as we can before the departure of Our Ships.

Fifthly concerning Fortifications Buildings and Revenues

66. It is highly disagreeable to Us to reflect on the immense Sums the New Fort has already cost Us amounting to December 1761 to near £350,000, as by the Account received by the Warren, and to find by your Advices there is yet so much to do, however we are pleased to find you have so readily seen the necessity of curtailing the immense Out Works at first designed, and that you have Resolved to contract the Plan and intend to finish it with all Expedition on as prudent and saving a Scheme as the Nature of the principal Work may require. If enlarging and extending the Esplanade was so necessary as Colonel Coote declared it to be we must acquiesce, tho' it seems to be a Work that will greatly encrease the Charge, but we hope to find you make good your promise of reinstating our loss that may arise in our Revenues from the Great extention of this Work by the equitable means you propose and as you have fallen upon a reasonable method of procuring Coolies without oppressing any body we hope the Works will have been prosecuted with so much vigour that we shall find by Our next Advices our heavy outgoings on this head draw to a Conclusion, and we must add here that we expect all private Works ought only to be considered in the second place and every reasonable means should be used to compleat as speedily as possible a publick Work of such importance & on which the general Security so much depends therefore should be suffered to meet with as little obstruction as possible.

67. The Resolution you are come to for having a regular Sett of Books kept by the Storekeeper of the Materials expended at the New Fort in the manner you mention is so useful a measure that it cannot but meet with our Approbation. If any other methods can be thought of which may be a Check upon Frauds and unnecessary Expences in the Works we trust you will adopt them and that you will have a constant attention to keep the Disbursements on this Account, heavy as they must unavoidably be, within due bounds.

68. We read with much Satisfaction the great Attention you have paid to that now material Branch of Our Affairs under your direction, the Revenues, the great diligence Mr. Sumner has shewn in executing the

Commission you appointed him to for enquiring into and settling the Revenues of the Burdwan Country is highly meritorious, and if he had not quitted the Service should have taken this opportunity of shewing the proper sense we have of such Services, as we find that particular Revenue is advanced by his good management from Ten Lacks thirty five thousand Rupees to thirty two and a half Lacks, & it seems by the Receipts you say that have been passed since that Stipulation that they are put on such a footing as to be just and reasonable—And though we are sensible that in such large and extensive Receipts it may not be practicable to receive the whole Annual Collection within the year, yet we hope and expect there will be as little left in Arrears as possible, for the recovery of Old Balances is generally attended with difficulty, by the Instance yourselves give in that of Four Lacks eleven thousand Rupees which were due on last year's Balance, and tho' we must commend Mr. Graham's diligence and we doubt not he may be a proper Person to put in Execution Mr. Sumner's Plan, yet we think the Collection of such large Sums should not be left to one Person solely and particularly as this Gentleman is of so young Standing, and therefore you must add another to take care of our Interest jointly with him.

69. We observe Mr. Sumner in the State he gave in of the Burdwan Revenues that he proposed to appoint Supravisors or Collectors in the Company's behalf to act jointly with those of the Rajahs, in order as we conjecture to prevent extraordinary Balances to be outstanding, but this we find would have been attended with an Expence of Sixty thousand Rupees P Annum, and besides seemed to give great dissatisfaction to the Rajah, for which reason, and to avoid the Expence you suspended the appointing Supravisors, however if the Rajah should not discharge the Agreement he has made and delay the Payment we apprehend still that such an Appointment would be necessary, for though the Charge might be considerable, yet it would be much for Our Interest if it would prevent such large Balances outstanding at the end of the year, and if you find this method is proper it may also be practised in other Provinces where we have a Revenue to collect, but we must caution you not to make use of this measure but in cases of absolute necessity, so as to avoid as much as possible giving disgust to the Rajah or other Officers.

70. The Chittagon Revenues are the next to be taken notice of, in which from your Representation we are pleased to find Mr. Verelst and his Council have conducted themselves to your Satisfaction and to the considerable encrease of Our Revenues there, as to merit our entire Approbation, we shall therefore only add, that we hope those Gentlemen will still continue to exert themselves to make further improvements as you and they think there is a good prospect of. It is also very pleasing to Us to find that Mr. Johnstone has exerted the same Diligence and assiduity in his Department at Midnapore, as to raise our Revenues there very considerably and likewise gives us hopes of further improvements. Let the several Gentlemen know the sense we have of their Important Services.

71. From a view of the Proceedings of the Committee of New Lands we have great reason to be satisfied with their close attention to this branch of the Service. The manner of keeping those Accounts is as we would have it, and your intention of following our Directions to let the Lands in smaller Lots when the present Leases expire will we flatter ourselves contribute greatly to the encrease of the Revenues.

72. We acquiesce in the deviation you have made from our former Orders in appointing Mr. Amyatt one of the Committee of New Lands, as we think you would not have done it unless it had clearly appeared that our restraint on the Collector of the Revenues of the Old Lands being [Added?] to the Committee of New Lands was really unnecessary, and that no prejudice could arise to Us from that alteration.

73. Although the Revenues which arise to us from the last Grants namely those of Burdwan, Chittagon and Midnapore were very considerable at first, but are now made much more so by the Laudable endeavours of the Gentlemen who are employed in stating and fixing them upon the present fair and equitable footing and for which we again express the just sense we have of such services, yet we cannot omit observing that those even with the addition of the Revenues of the New Lands of Calcutta furnish little on Balance to value ourselves upon Our Outgoings in Fortifications, Buildings and Military Expeditions and other great Charges amount to such enormous Sums as almost to swallow the whole. Had it not been for the Remittances you have made to Madrass of Five Lacks and what you further propose to send thither, and to assist Bombay with, we should not have received the return of a Rupee from you this Season, for your Draughts on us exceed the Cost of the Cargoes of the Four Ships you returned us this Season as noticed under the Third Head, so that the above proposed Remittances are the whole of what we see at present for our large Revenues together with the value of our Consignments from hence to you, How Strongly therefore should such a view excite you to think in time and in earnest to lessen our great Charges and to look into and reduce every Item of Expence possible, we have full Confidence you will do so, and therefore only give you this cursory view to call up your attention, and what time so proper for so necessary a work as when the Country enjoys a happy Tranquility as by your last Advices you say it does and therefore we flatter ourselves this good work has been already begun.

Sixthly of Covenant & Military Servants and their Accounts

74. In our Letter of the 17th December last we informed you we had appointed the Revd. Mr. Furnival Bowen one of Our Chaplains upon the Bengal Establishment and had lent him the Sum of Fifty Pounds to be repaid out of his growing Salary; We are now to acquaint you he takes his Passage in the Pigot, and that instead of Fifty, we have lent him One hundred pounds to be repaid in the beforementioned manner, his Bond for that Sum is accordingly transmitted in the Pigot's packet.

75. Agreeable to your Request for a Capable Assay Master, we have chosen and do hereby appoint Mr. Alexander Campbell a Gentleman who has been well recommended to Us for that Station, he takes his Passage accordingly on the Ship British King. He is to be the last Junior Merchant upon the List and never rise to an higher Station as a Covenant Servant without our especial Leave; his Salary and Appointments are to be in all respects upon the same footing as a Junior Merchant over and above which he is to be allowed Eighty Pounds a year by way of Gratuity as Assay Master, which last is what Mr. Edwards receives at Fort St. George for that particular Service. If Mr. Campbell has a mind to proceed to Fort St. George to be Our Assay Master at that Presidency in case of a Vacancy, we give Our Consent, upon this Condition, that he first Qualifies Mr. Anselm Beaumont or some other Person you shall appoint in the Art of Assaying so fully and effectually, that such Person may be able to conduct that Branch of the Mint Business in a satisfactory manner, without his further Assistance. In case of his proceeding to Fort St. George, he is to be the last Junior Merchant on that Establishment, in like manner as directed above with respect to yours, and to have the Salary and Appointments of a Junior Merchant with the addition of Eighty Pounds a year as Assay Master. If Mr. Campbell makes use of this Liberty you are to signify to the President and Council of Fort St. George that he has complied with the beforementioned Conditions.

76. We must suppose that our several Servants upon the Fort Marlborough Establishment will before this reaches you be returned to their Stations, however if any of them shall happen still to remain in Bengal, you are to give them notice to proceed without delay.

77. Your Secretary Mr. Williamson having in a Letter to Mr. James desired that six small and two large Seals might be sent, the first for Sealing Letters and Packets and the others for Commissions and Instruments of those kinds, as we cannot approve of their becoming too common and familiar, we sent by the Plassey and Hawke, only two small ones, and you will receive by the Lord Clive One large Seal with it's proper Apparatus; This latter must be kept by the President and other Members of the Committee of Treasury under several Locks and each Member is to have a Key to his respective Lock, and we further direct, that the said Seal be never made use of without an order of Council, and you are to describe in your Diary the Instruments to which it is put. Whatever Articles are desired of this or any other kind should either be mentioned in the General Letter or your Indents, and we shall expect that you do not fail herein for the future.

78. We approve of your sending Mr. George Gray to reside at Malda, as the Sum you mention is much too considerable to be trusted solely in the hands of the Gomastahs, You must have a proper regard to our Interest in the allowances for these Small Residencies where frugality should always be observed.

79. We are pleased to observe the grateful Sentiments President Vansittart entertains of our favourable notice of his Services and the Allowance we made him of $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent upon the Nett Annual produce of our New acquired Territories agreeable to the Directions in our Letter of the 13th March 1761 and which in your Letter of the 12th November following it is expressed Mr. Vansittart deems to mean only the Calcutta Purgannas until our further pleasure is known. He has acted very properly on this occasion, And as we cannot extend this Indulgence without in the first place knowing the annual Sum Mr. Vansittart receives in consequence of our said Orders, and in the next place being fully informed of the Nett Annual produce of the Revenues of those Territories which have been acquired since that time that we may form a Judgment whether it may be reasonable to make any and what allowance to the President in addition to the said $2\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent upon the Calcutta Purgannas, You are therefore to send us very explicit Accounts of the same by the first opportunity.

80. The Allowance you have made for the Chief of Chittagon being the same as that of Patna we approve, as the large Revenues from thence and other advantages we have reason to expect makes this place a Trust of great Importance and will require the utmost care and assiduity in Our Servants there, but it is to be understood that the said Allowance is to comprehend every Item except that of Salary which the Chief may otherways be entitled to by his Rank and Station upon the List of Covenant Servants.

81. The Appointments you have made of the several Servants agreeable to the List sent us we doubt not are very proper, and that they are well Qualified for the several Departments, and that you will take care they perform their Dutys therein.

82. From the good Character you have given of Mr. More we have overlooked the Imprudent Step he took and have again taken him into our Service and appointed him Chaplain to our Presidency of Bencoolen and hope his Conduct will be such in future that we shall have no cause to complain.

83. The Packets received by the Hawke and Plassey were very badly packed, many Letters were much rubbed and torn; You must in future take particular care that the Boxes are made in proportion only to what they are to contain, allowing some room for Cotton round the sides.

84. We observe by your Letter of the 12th November 1761 that Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted was still employed at Chittagon, in Surveying the Creeks, Rivers, Islands &ca. on that Coast, where you judged his Service was of great importance, and it appearing from your Advices that there is a probability this place will prove very advantageous to the Company, We have come to a Resolution to countermand our former Orders for Mr. Plaisted's proceeding to Bombay, where we find he is not so much wanted as at your Settlement; He is therefore to continue in Bengal in Quality of Surveyor and an Assistant Engineer to Mr. Amphlett, That he may have the protection

and Advantages in Trade enjoyed by our Covenant Servants, he is to be ranked upon your List as the youngest Factor, but he is not to rise any higher; his Allowance of 1800 Rupees a year is to be continued to which is to be added the Salary and Appointments of a Factor. These Allowances are to be in full consideration for all Perquisites, Emoluments and Expectations whatsoever for his said several Stations.

85. We have received intimations of an extraordinary nature from the Gentlemen who are appointed as Commissaries from the Dutch Company That Mr. Mc. Gwire when Chief of Patna, made an attempt to obtain an exclusive Grant for himself of the Ophium Trade there, this is a matter of such consequence, That we direct it to be enquired into and if there appear good grounds to suspect he made such an attempt, he must expect to meet with Our Resentment, As we think if such a Step had been taken it is an insult upon our Authority, for any Servant to presume to solicit separate Grants or Privileges of Trade for his own Advantage and emolument, and such a transaction in him is a bad return for the great favour we showed in admitting him again into our Service, when he had merited Our Displeasure.

86. We acquiesced in your continuing to pay the Widow Mapletoft's Pension of One hundred Rupces a Month tho' at the same time we acquainted you it was an unprecedented and Lavish allowance. But as she and her Family are now in England there is no reason for continuing her as a Pensioner to be paid out of our Cash at Fort William, You are therefore to pay no more on that Account. If she is a real object of Charity We suppose she will represent her Circumstances to and Request for Relief from Us.

87. It being our intention to keep up a respectable Military Force at our several Presidencies, we accordingly sent in the Ships which sailed last as many Recruits as we could then raise and they could conveniently carry amounting to about 420 for Fort St. George and 60 for Bengal, We now send in the Ships Lord Clive, British King and Pigot 150, that is to say 50 in each Ship, all of whom are to proceed to Bengal, and the Pitt will follow with 300 for Fort St. George. We shall furnish our Presidency of Bombay likewise by the Ships of this Season with 400 Military Recruits, and 200 Boys, the Latter discharged from the King's Ships, to be trained up and employed in our Marine Service there; the Pocock and Glatton also carry about 100 Recruits to Fort Marlborough.

88. In consequence of your great want of & pressing Instances for Recruits, we have given Orders to our President and Council of Fort St. George to forward all those intended for your Presidency without fail by every proper conveyance. We have further directed them that if you want any further number to send as many Recruits out of their Troops as can be spared with any Kind of safety and convenience and you will take care to signify such your want to our said President and Council.

89. Mr. James Carstairs who proceeds in one of these Ships is upon his arrival to be an Ensign upon our Bengal Establishment, and is to take Rank next below Mr. Isaac Tullie and Mr. George Hadley whom we appointed Ensigns by our Letter of the 17th of December last.

90. The Cadets who proceed to Bengal this Season are to take Rank and be preferred if they behave well in the Order they stand upon the List Signed by our Secretary.

91. Our Engineer Mr. Amphlett having in his Letter to us of the 20th December 1761 taken notice of the necessity of having an Ingenious Civil Architect for the executing and management of the Public Buildings; We accordingly send you Mr. John Fortnom by the Ship Lord Clive, who has been regularly bred an Architect, Surveyor and Draughtsman under the late Mr. Barnard an Eminent Builder, and under whom he had the principal direction of several Buildings. As Mr. Amphlett says in his said Letter such a Man would be useful in the Settlement, and it would be worth the while of any one to come out to Bengal on very easy Terms with the Company, Mr. Fortnom under such Expectations has agreed to rank as an Assistant Engineer and Accept the Established Pay of your Presidency as such, however we recommend it to you to give him all due Encouragement, if you find him deserving of it.

92. We should very gladly comply with your Request for sending you young Persons to be brought up as Assistants in the Engineering branch, but as we find it extremely difficult to procure such, you will do well to employ any who have a Talent that way among the Cadets or others. In our Letter of the 17th December we hinted that several of the Writers going out this Season were qualified in drawing, if you find they can be of use to the Engineer they are to be Stationed accordingly, still keeping however their Rank as Covenant Servants.

93. We can't help observing the large Demand Coll. Coote made for his Field Expences for 15 Months that he Commanded upon the Coast, but as he represents the Extraordinary Expence incurred by maintaining French Prisoners and other Charges more than usually attending such a Command we must acquiesce.

94. Lieutenant Anthony Castiel who was found Guilty by a Court Martial of Extorting Money from the Inhabitants ought to have been sent home by the first Ship, for the least attempt of this kind deserves the Severest Punishment that the Nature of the Crime will admit of.

95. The Case of Captain Spelman has been considered and from the Representation made of it both from your Presidency and Madras, it appears he was entitled to a Captain's Commission in the year 1757 on your Establishment, at which time you leave him out, tho' in the year 1756 you consider him as belonging to the Establishment by appointing him a Lieutenant, As you assign no reasons why he was left out in the Promotions of 1757 we are unable

to give you any Orders about it, but at the same time we recommend that you Endeavour to satisfy him in some other way that may not be so prejudicial to the rest of the Officers in the service, as his having Rank now given him in the manner he seems to think himself Intitled to .

96. The Captains Commission given to Mr. Amphlett meets with our Approval for the reasons you mention in the 86th Paragraph of your Letter as it enables him to carry a proper Command over the Military Working parties, and we are glad to find that Gentleman's Conduct in his Department is so much to your satisfaction.

97. The Reduction of your Military Expences and particularly of your Field Allowances was and is still an object most worthy of your serious attention. The extraordinary allowance of double Batta is what we cannot pass over without some animadversions thereon.

98. When this matter was under your consideration we should have thought you might have had some view to the Establishment of the British Forces while in the Field, where their Allowances bear no proportion to their Daily Pay. But as we are sensible that a difference of Country may make some additional allowances necessary we shall confine Ourselves to the Circumstances of the Military in India.

99. The allowance of double Batta is not only entirely new to us but no reasons are given why of late it should be deemed more necessary than it was heretofore. We must observe that your compliance therewith is founded on an Estimate which appears to us of a very extraordinary nature, with regard to the great number of Servants said to be necessary in the Field. To the alleged dearness of Provisions which we have reason to believe is greater on the Coast of Choromandel than in Bengal, And also to the unprecedented Article for Wearing Apparel.

100. We must further remark that notwithstanding the Captains Estimate their Field Expences at 313 Arcot Rupees P. Month yet by your General List of Batta inserted among your Military Regulations September 1761 it appears that you have even exceeded this Estimate by allowing each Captain 12 Arcot Rupees P Day for his common Field Expences and 20 when Commanding a Detachment.

101. There still remain other weighty reasons against this profuse allowance and which we might have hoped would have attracted your attention. These are the consequences which must inevitably attend such an indulgence as His Majesty's Troops would necessarily expect the same—And the Company's Troops at our other Settlements would think themselves equally entitled thereto—But the most cogent objection is still behind namely the heavy Burthen this must lay on us for by the Account on your Consultations 25th September 1761 the Batta to Officers only on your Establishment amounts to Current Rupees 209134-4- in the year to November 1760 which together

with the great additional Sum for the Allowance of one Arcot Rupee P^r day to three private Men is an expence which ought not without the most absolute necessity to have been complied with to such an unreasonable extent, and should have influenced you so far as not to have supported the Rank of the officers so much to the prejudice of the Company, more especially at a Time when you could not fail of being sensible of Our Losses and Charges incurred by the War.

102. With respect to what the Officers have advanced in their Letter to you of the 21st September 1761 in support of their demand we cannot admit their Argument to be of sufficient Force—For tho' we are desirous not only to answer the original Engagement with the Military Gentlemen, and to grant them encouragement suitable to their merit, yet it cannot be justly expected they should be enabled by us to raise such Fortunes as might lead them to quit the Service in a short space of time—An inconvenience to which we have of late been frequently subject.

103. Upon the whole tho' you have agreed to this prejudicial Indulgence we do most seriously recommend it to you and Trust that you will embrace every opportunity to reduce the same and to confine all our Military Expences within the most frugal bounds consistent with the general good of the Service.

104. Before we quit this subject we must inform you of a circumstance mentioned to us by Major Carnac in the Letter received from him dated 8th February 1762 wherein he observes "That your Establishment is loaded with the expence of more Captains than need be, owing to the unnecessarily making it a point that they should be Captains who command the Seapoy Battalions, whereas such is the nature of Seapoys that it requires a peculiar Genius and Talents to be qualified for that Service, and the Battalions should be given only to such who are so without regard to Rank."

105. Major Carnac further adds that "notwithstanding the late reduction of your Infantry by mortality the best Men have been picked out to form an Ideal Troop of Cavalry, which exists no otherwise than in the immense expence for they have the Pay and Appointments of Troopers tho' not yet mounted, nor is there the least probability of their being compleatly provided with Horses under a considerable length of time."

106. As this last observation is confirmed by a General Return transmitted by Colonel Coote where it appears that in November 1761 only 4 Horses were procured to mount 66 Men, and as a representation is said to have been made to the President on this head, we trust that the same has been duly considered and that you have been careful to reduce all unnecessary expences thereon.

107. With respect to the Seapoys if the Extraordinary Expence attending the Officers has not already been retrenched, we in a particular manner recommend it to your immediate attention and [*sic*] that the whole Body of those Troops be placed on the most frugal footing.

108. The General Rules and Orders given in your Consultations 23rd Septemr. 1761 for the Establishment and Economy in the management of our Military merit our Approbation and we have only to hope that you will be attentive to the due execution of them.

109. We also approve of the Steps you have taken for reducing the expences of Draught Cattle, Victualling the Troops, and furnishing Boats— But we are sorry to find by your Letter 21st January 1762 that the whole could not be carried into execution upon Contract, However we entirely rely on you to act therein as you shall find most conducive to our Interest.

110. It is highly necessary and you are accordingly to take care that all claims and demands we may have upon the Government for Moneys lent, disbursed or otherwise on account of His Majesty's Land and Sea Forces be carefully and clearly stated, and vouched by the proper Officers belonging to such Forces in such a manner as may enable us to apply properly to the Public Offices for Payment of the same, these accounts will be more particularly necessary whenever His Majesty shall signify his pleasure of recalling his said Forces as that will be the Period when all such Accounts will be at an end, and after which it will be very difficult if not impossible to recover the amount.

111. We observe you applied to Colonel Coote for the Payment of the Bills for the Hospital Charges of His Majesty's Troops, but he having no Contingent Money, was to certify the Bills which you promised to send us by the Ships that might leave your Place in January, but this has been omitted. We should be better pleased if all such Accounts could be settled with the proper Officers abroad, but when that cannot be done for want of Money, then the method you have taken upon this occasion must be continued.

112. Our Servants at Bombay we make no doubt will use their best Endeavours to secure to us the Sum they have attached there on account of Brohier's Fraud, and we expect you will continue your Endeavours to recover from the several persons concerned in that shamefull Abuse all you possibly can.

113. Notwithstanding the directions that have been given you for transmitting to us a full and compleat account of the Charges attending the French Prisoners of War and continuing the same from time to time, yet we find that the account No. 46 received P Warren which is said to be Stated from the beginning of the present War in Bengal appears very defective and is contradictory to the Accounts you have before transmitted.

114. For the Account you sent by the Calcutta is continued to Decemr. 1759 and amounts to upwards of 42000 Rups. notwithstanding the four months subsequent to December 1758 are wanting, whereas in the Account receiv'd P Warren the Commissary's Disbursements are carried on no further than April 1758 and amounts only to 24184 Rupees. And no other Article in this last Account comprises the remainder of the time.

115. You have also omitted the Victualling the French Prisoners, which appears by the Buxey's Account for February and March 1760 besides three large Sums for Passage Money mentioned in your Treasury Accounts subsequent to October 1761 which last Charges were as necessary to have been brought into your Account as any of the Articles you have specified therein.

116. The want of a regular Account of the particular Charges attending the French Prisoners stated from the beginning disables us from making any proper demand thereof at present. We therefore trust you will take care to collect the several Expences incurred thereby & transmit the same to us duly Authenticated by the first opportunity And in case this Account should not be entirely closed by that time you will be mindful to send an Estimate of the future monthly expence for the Prisoners then under your charge.

117. This impropriety gives us fresh occasion to complain of your delay in the General Books which at the time of your transmitting the Account P Warren might reasonably have been expected to have been sent home to April 1761 whereby the greatest part of that Account would have been verified—And we are the more surprized at this material failure as you appointed an extra Assistant for this particular purpose, Whose business we hope has for some time been compleated and his Assistance rendered altogether unnecessary.

Seventhly concerning the Charter

118. In the case of the two offenders mentioned in your Letter of the 12th November 1761 there ought to have been no conviction of Felony for unless some value is expressed in the Indictment the Offence is neither Grand nor Petit Larceny, and the Court upon reading the indictment should have refused to proceed upon it, as nugatory & void, and the Prisoners should have been detained till another Bill was preferr'd but being convicted on this bad Indictment, as it is stated they were, it was right to discharge them, as no Sentence could in Law be given upon it.

119. We observe the Proposals which have been offered for renting the Corry Jury Lands, and wait to see the Lease itself which you say you are getting drawn out, in the most regular manner, we think you did right at the same time to desire the Undertakers to employ some Person on their Part in England, to prepare Authentic Writings for the purpose to be sent out to be executed, we shall certainly as you recommend appoint a fit person on the part of the Company to settle these Writings which when we see we may be able to form a better Judgment of the Affair than we can at present, for we are at a loss how to understand many particulars in the Proposal.

120. The Principal Difficulties that occur to us upon them are these :

First that the Tenants or Lessees shall have an option of determining the Lease at the end of the first seven years and that no such option is

reserved to the Company, from whence it follows, that the Lands may be worn out during that Term & left to the Company at the end of it, in a much worse Condition than they are now taken.

Secondly An annual Rent of 2500 Sioca Rupees is to be paid besides the usual Duty collected by the name of Cootechtapoor, here you leave us in the Dark to guess how this Duty is to be collected, whether by the Company, or the Lessees; if by the latter, what check is there upon them, or are the Company to accept what they shall please to give them?

Thirdly The Lessees oblige themselves to clear a Tract of Land fit for Tillage of Twenty thousand Begas, or forfeit for so many Begas as fall short of that number One Rupee P Bega. We desire to know who are to be the Judges of the fitness of Tillage, the Lessees themselves or Our President and Council, many of whom are the Lessees,

Fourthly The like option is reserved to the Lessees, but denied to the Company of determining the Lease at the end of the Second Term of Seven years, or in other words, at the end of the first Fourteen years of the Lease, which is to be for Twenty one years, and during this second Term, we perceive Thirty thousand Begas are to be rendered tillageable. But we are left to guess, whether in this Second term there are to be Thirty thousand Begas besides the Twenty thousand stipulated during the first Term, or only Thirty thousand in the whole. The same objections too, occur here as with respect to the first Term vizt. as to the fitness of the Tillage and the Power given to the Lessees to leave the Lands in what condition they shall think fit.

Fifthly The same Observations and Objections arise with respect to the Third Term mentioned in the Proposals.

Sixthly At the end of the whole Term of Twenty one years, if the Lessees shall chuse so long to continue Tenants, then it is proposed, that the Lands shall be valued by four Persons, Two of them to be appointed by the Company, and the other Two by the Lessees, and the Lease shall be renewed for Four years for three Fourths of the Neat Produce, and in the like manner renewed, upon the like valuation, every fourth year *for Ever* unless the Lessees shall at any time refuse to accept the Lease which they have a Liberty to do, & then the Lands are to revert to the Company. Under this Clause the Company are bound for ever and the Lessees not at all, besides it cannot be fitting to leave the Valuation to four Persons who may be equally divided and consequently can fix no Value.

Seventhly That the Lessees shall be at Liberty to grant Leases of any part of the demised Lands to Under Tenants, which Leases shall be ratified under the Company's Seal & shall continue in force, altho' the Lessees shall throw up their own Contract provided the Terms be not less beneficial to the Company than those the Lessees have agreed to; Upon this Article we observe that Our Original Lessees, tho' they should cease to be so, and we have nothing more to do with them, shall have the Power of

leaving us inthrall'd with Tenants, whom we may be entire strangers to, and yet we shall be oblig'd to acknowledge and confirm their Rights thus deriv'd under others, without our Consent, nay possibly against it, and these Tenants perhaps at the same time insolvent as well as unknown and without a possibility in the Company to get rid of them, until their own good pleasure.

Eighthly Seapoys are to be allowed, whenever required, for the Security of the Tenants, their Batta to be paid by the Lessees but all Troops, employ'd in the Defence of the Lands against Public Enemies, to be at the Charges of the Company, and if any Losses are occasioned by such Invasions, or other *unavoidable Causes* a deduction shall be allowed from the Rents, proportionable to the Damages sustained by the Lessees. This likewise is an Article of great Uncertainty. Who is left to judge of the necessity of the demand of Soldiers or of the number to be furnish'd? Again, what shall be call'd *unavoidable Causes*? are the Company to insure against Fire, Water, Storms, and Tempests? If any Damages are done, who is to be the Judge of their being unavoidable, and if unavoidable, who is to fix the Proportion of Damages? Surely not the Lessees themselves in Justice or Equity. And we observe too that no provision is made for the determination of the Lease if the Lands should be, by Invasion and force, taken from the Company. These & many other objections occur to us at present to the Proposals, which makes us wish to see them reduced into form in hopes that we may there find them better explain'd & digested.

121. The Acts of Parliament regarding Assessments & Publick Roads certainly do not extend to India, but the Justices in Sessions nevertheless must regard the Presentments of the Grand Jury, touching all Nusances, which are cognizable before the Justices in Sessions at the Common Law, without the Aid of Acts of Parliament, but then you will observe, that the Matters thus presented by the Grand Jury must arise within the Limits of the Jurisdiction of the Court, & must be the proper Business of Sessions, such as keeping Pavements in Repair, Cleansing the Streets, Maintaining the Poor, & the like. We are very doubtful whether the making of Publick Drains throughout a Town, putting up Lamps, or making of New Roads are of this nature, so as legally to be enforced by presentment or Orders of Sessions, & we observe that these public works in England have generally been directed & regulated by particular Acts of Parliament, for particular Roads, Cities, or Towns. However this is an affair of very great Consequence, and we must consult our Council thereupon; At present we recommend it to you to form, and send us over a Sett of By Laws suited to these Ends, which by virtue of the Charter the President & Council of every Settlement are empowered to make, and when approved and confirmed by Us may be legally carried into execution. When you send Us these By Laws, you must at the same time transmit to us full and accurate particulars of the intended use & application of them, and the nature & extent of the designed Works, for all By Laws & the Penalties contained in them must be agreeable to reason, and not contrary to the Laws of the Realm.

122. We are of Opinion, that the Justices in Sessions cannot make an Order on the Inhabitants to contribute towards the making or maintaining Fortifications, or Public Works of that kind, altho' manifestly tending to the Protection and Security of the Settlement; nevertheless we have no doubt but that Duties may be imposed on Merchandize, or a Tax on Inhabitants, to answer purposes so necessary to the preservation of the Public, this must be done by an Ordinance of the President & Council, and in strictness ought to be approved and confirmed by us, before it can legally be enforced.

123. The Appeal concerning the Ship Restitution was heard before the Privy Council on the 15th July last, and the sentence of the President and Council reversed, consequently the Decree of the Mayors Court confirmed, and thereby the Sum of 51376 Current Rupees and One Annae is to be repaid to Durand and the Owners of that Ship. On this Head we can only observe, that the Freight paid beforehand was most extravagant, the Value set upon the Ship most exorbitant, and great inattention shewn in not excepting in the Agreement the Contingency that happened of the Prisoners rising and carrying the Ship where they pleased, which it was the Business of the Owners to guard and provide against. Upon the whole we are of Opinion, that proper care was not taken of the Company's Interest in this Affair.

Supplement

124. It appearing by Mr. Amphlett's Letter that European Artificers are much wanted, We send you three Carpenters who have been well Recommended to us with Mr. Fortnom by the Ship Lord Clive vizt. Abraham Hathaway, Thomas Lyon, and John Faux. We have entertained them to serve the Company five Years at the rate of Ninety Pounds a year to commence on their arrival which is to be in full for Wages, Diet Money and all other allowances whatsoever.

125. By the same Ship we send Thomas James & William Thomson who are upon their arrival to be Serjeants of Artillery and Gilbert Fordham to be a Serjeant in Our Infantry, they are to have the usual Pay of those Corps respectively.

126. We have already informed you by our Letters of the 9th and 22nd of December last of the intention of the Ministry to recall His Majesty's Land Forces from the East Indies. When that Event takes place we shall depend upon your exerting your best Endeavours for engaging as many of the Private Men and Officers mentioned in the said Letters as you can. And as it may be a Convenience to the Government and of Utility to the Company for having their Ordnance, Musquets and other Military Stores left the Service of our own Troops, You are therefore to apply for and receive such accordingly, after a very strict Examination of their being perfectly serviceable, You are to give the proper Officers Receipts for the same in order for our Paying for them to His Majesty's Board of Ordnance or other Office to whom the Cognizance of such Affairs belongs.

127. By Our Letter of the 17th Decr. & in the 89th Para. of this you were informed of our appointing Messrs. Isaac Tullie, Geo. Hadley & Jas. Carstairs Ensigns upon the Bengal Establishment. We have since added Mr. Wm. Fenwicke who is also to be an Ensign upon his Arrival at Fort William and take Rank next below Mr. James Carstairs.

128. On the Application of the Father of Thos. Green a Recruit sent you by the Delawar in 1755 We direct that you grant him his discharge with liberty to return hither on one of Our Ships without charge to us, & having renewed his Contracted time, inform us what may be due from him on account of the unexpired term, that it may according to his Father's proposal be received of him here if it shall not be made good to you.

We are,

Your Loving Friends,

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/John Browne/Hen.
Hadley/G. Steevens / John Manship/Geo.
Dudley/Thos. Waters/Christr. Baron/Richd.
Warner/Wm. Webber / Rt. Burrow/Heny.
Savage/W.Thornton/Cha. Gough/F.W.Barrington / Richd. Seward / Timothy Tullie/Wm.
Snell.

London,
9th March 1763.
[Consd. 7th Sept. 1763]

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LETTER DATED 9 MARCH 1763

Treaty of Paris signed—instructions regarding restoration of French settlements—the French not to have fortifications in Bengal—recognition by the French of Muhammad Ali as Nawab of Arcot.

OUR President and Council at Fort St. George, Fort William in Bengal, Bombay, and Fort Marlborough.

1. On the 10th February the Definitive Treaty was signed at Paris by the Ministers of Great Britain, France, Spain & Portugal, and the usual Rati-fications of their several sovereigns will be soon Exchanged there. Till that is done We suppose the Government will not dispatch to India the necessary Orders for the Execution of that part of the Treaty which concerns the Company. In the mean time and that you may be better prepar'd for those Orders when they arrive We have been favoured with a Copy of the 11th Article of the Treaty and of an Explanatory Declaration sign'd at the same time by his Grace the Duke of Bedford, of both which we send you copies by this conveyance.

2. We hope and believe the intention throughout is expressed with sufficient perspicuity to prevent any considerable mistake or doubt, yet we judge it not improper to convey to you & to our several other Presidencies our sense of this Treaty & to point out what seems principally to require your & their attention in the execution of it within your several Departments; and tho' every part of what We propose to say does not immediately & equally concern you, We think it best to comprize the whole in one general Instruction. What we are now therefore writing to you is exactly what we have written or shall write to our several other Settlements.

3. The first Object of the Treaty is a Restoration on our part of the Comptoirs (or Factories) which the French had on Mallabar, Choromandel, Orixá & Bengal at the commencement of the year 1749 and a Renunciation on their part of all subsequent Acquisitions. Your first care therefore must be to ascertain what the French had in those Countries on the 1st day of January 1748/9, and as this must have been notorious We presume you will have no difficulty in it. Mr. Dupleix in his Memoir¹ represents their possessions, to have been as follow. On the Coast of Choromandel Pondicherry, the Comptoir of Karical, a Lodge at Mazulipátam & another at Yanam—in Bengal, Chandernagore and five Lodges at Ballasore, Dacca, Cossimbuzar, Jugdea and Patna, and on Mallabar, Mahé and two Lodges, the one at Surat the other at Callicut. This account we understand to be true, that is that they had those & that they had no other; but of this you must take care to be properly informed, and such Comptoirs as you find they had on that day and no other are to be restored to them.

4. Your next care must be to distinguish by the best information that has been or can be procured, the *then* extent and Boundaries of such of the places to be restored as were at any time *afterwards* enlarged, because all such additions as well as other Acquisitions subsequent to that Period are to remain with the present Possessors the French having renounced all Pretensions to them. This We understand to be particularly material in the case of Pondicherry and Karical. The Boundaries of the former We apprehend were enlarged in 1749, by the addition of the Lands of Villenour and Bahour with 80 Aldees dependent thereon, Granted to Mr. Dupleix by Chunda Saib. The latter we understand to have been (as Mr. Dupleix calls it) a mere Comptoir, or nearly so at the Time in question & all the Lands about it, which the French have since possessed We apprehend were granted to them after that time. Dupleix says "The Lands of Karical and 81 Aldees were granted by Mustaferring² in 1750". It is perhaps needless to add that at Mazulipátam the French are to be Restored to nothing more than the House they formerly had there. The Town itself and whatever Districts we possess in that Country (the French tho' they were once in possession having now renounced their Pretensions) are of course to remain in our possession. In like manner the four Provinces Granted them by Salabat Zing³ with whatever other Territories or Places they enjoyed by Grant or Conquest from the Princes of the Country subsequent to the Period agreed on, are renounced by the French

and of course secured to the present Possessors. You will here observe that our Engagement to restore, is confined to Comptoirs & therefore cannot perhaps strictly be extended to Territories or Districts of any sort how-long-soever they may have been in the Possession of the French. We do not mean however to exclude them from such small Districts as belonged to any of their Factories before the period in Question but, this Observation affords another Ground to insist that they are not to be restored to any of the additional Districts acquired since that time.

5. In respect of the Extent of the French Renunciation you will observe that they renounce in terms all Pretensions to the Acquisitions made since the said 1st of January 1748/9, and this We understand comprehends every Territory, Settlement Lodge or Place they ever had in the Mogul Empire, except only those to which they are now to be restored but if on the Coast of Choromandel they should pretend to have or should really have any Grant from Chunda Saib of a prior date, the place or thing so Granted we understand to be likewise Renounced tho' not in terms yet virtually by their present Recognition of Mahomed Ally Khan; whose Title being thus acknowledged it follows that Chunda Saib his Competitor was an Usurper, & as such this Grants were invalid. This we say lest the French should hereafter set up any Claims under such a Title, but you will observe that whatever the extent of their Renunciation (which is only material as it extinguishes their Claims & preserves the Peace of the Country) yet in all Events they are to be restored to nothing but what they not only had a Right to possess but actually possessed on the 1st January 1748/9, so that a dormant Grant under which they had not then taken possession would not avail them in this part of the Treaty.

6. It may not be amiss to apprise you here that among other Objections which have been made to the Treaty it has been said that Madras being in the hands of the French at the beginning & during great part of the year 1749 is advertently ceded to them by this Treaty. The Answer to this is that the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle having restored to us that Settlement in 1748, tho' on account of the distance it could not be known in India till 1749, yet from the moment that Treaty was sign'd, Our Title to it was reestablished, it became as it anciently had been, an English Settlement. The time therefore when it was actually evacuated is immaterial, it was not a French Comptoir but a place to which his most Christian Majesty had given up all pretension on the 1st January 1748/9.

7. We presume you will meet with no difficulties from the Country Powers in restoring any of the Places beforemention'd, which the French are to have restored to them. All but Karical we understand to be in our possession or to have been abandonned & not formally given up to the Princes in whose Dominions they lie, & therefore still in our power; And tho' some of those Princes particularly Salabat Zing and the Nabob of Bengal have engaged to us not to suffer the French to return into their Dominions,

we suppose they will have no objection since we consent. As to Karical we observe by the Fort St. George Consultations of the 9th June 1760, that the Fortress was order'd to be demolished (which we hope was accordingly done) & the Districts sold to the King of Tanjore at the Price of a Lack and Half of Rupees. We understand (as We have before observed) these Districts or the greater part of them not to have belonged to the French till the year 1750. Those therefore will still remain with the present Possessor; but if the purchase made of us by this Prince should be found to comprehend any thing which We are now to restore to the French & he should have actually paid his purchase Money, his Consent must be obtained by the repayment of a suitable proportion of the Price or by any other just means that shall be found more expedient.

8. We have nothing more to add concerning the Restitutions to be made by us to the French, except that we understand their Fortresses & Buildings to be all destroyed, & We hope this necessary Work was compleated before the day of signing the Treaty, Since we are to restore them in the Condition they were in on that day.

9. You will observe his most Christian Majesty engages to restore to us whatever he may have conquered, We know of nothing and hope there is nothing to claim under this Stipulation but the two Places particularly named Nattal and Tappanouly on the Isle of Sumatra, which his most Christian Majesty undertakes to restore & must therefore cause the Dutch to give them up to Us, if they should be, as We suppose them to be, still in their possession. We apprehend we shall soon be call'd on by the Government to name a proper Person to receive those places.

10. The next & a very important Object of the Treaty is the preservation of a permanent Superiority in Bengal by the provision restraining the French from Fortifying or having Troops in any part of that Subaship. This restriction was not submitted to without great reluctance and the change of the Terms from Bengal as it stood in the Preliminary Article into "The Dominions of the Subah of Bengal" (which We desired to obviate a pretence that their Engagement not to Fortify &ca. was confined to the Province so called) was not obtained without great difficulty. As it is not certainly known, in Europe at least, how far Southward the Dominions of the Subah of Bengal extend, the French objected to the phrase as too loose and indeterminate, were, or appeared to be apprehensive, that We should extend it to their prejudice to comprehend their Northern Settlements on the Coast of Choromandel, and desired to have the Line drawn with more precision. At their Request the Duke of Bedford was authorized to subscribe the accompanying Declaration for that purpose. This Declaration tho' desired by the French we understand to be rather Advantageous to us, doubting whether the Subahship of Bengal does in fact extend so far Southward as it is here explain'd and declared to do. Be the fact as it may however We apprehend that as to all the purposes of this Treaty every thing North of Yanam is henceforward to be considered as in the Dominion

of the ~~Soubah~~ of Bengal. Yanam consequently is the Northernmost point where the French are at liberty to Fortify or have Troops, and all beyond it is within the Restriction as to Troops and Fortifications. Consistently with this Stipulation thus explained the French can never have a place of strength on this side the Gulph of Bengal nearer to Calcutta than Yanam, which we consider as a most important point, believing that whilst this Engagement is adhered to, it will not be in their power to create any new Disturbances or to raise themselves into any sort of Competition with us in Bengal. It is our most earnest desire & direction therefore that our Governor & Council of that Presidency will be constantly attentive to this great Object and careful to observe to remonstrate & by all lawful means in their power to prevent the slightest violation of his most Christian Majesty's Engagement on this head.

11. You will observe that this Treaty contains an acknowledgment on the part of the French of the Title of Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn, which we observe has been always considered in India as a very desirable object & appears to us to be so, not only in that it extinguishes (as We have before observed) all Claims under Chunda Saib, but as the procuring it will, as we hope, be consider'd by the Nabob himself and the other Indian Princes as a further proof of our regard to our Engagements and of the value of our Alliance. In this light it should be represented to the Nabob, and indeed We ought not to lose the merit of it with him, being well assured the Government found real difficulty in obtaining it. A further advantage we hope to derive from the Recognition of this Prince and of Salabat Zing, whose Title you will see is likewise acknowledged, that is a Confirmation of our Title to yr. Territories we hold under Grants from those Princes, & a further security to the Peace of the Country leaving the French no colour to interpose hereafter in favour of any other Pretenders to the Sovereignty of the Decan or the Carnatick.

12. With the same view of preserving the future Peace of the Country, the Conclusion of the Article is a Renunciation of all Demands the French might otherwise have made on the Country Powers for depredations or injuries, committed or pretended to be committed, during the late War.

13. Upon the whole We hope this Treaty has extinguished all Claims or Pretensions which might have occasion'd or afforded a pretence for a New War on the Part of the French either against us or any of the Princes of the Country, And it must be your care to prevent as far as is in your power their acquiring any new Claims or Pretensions which may lead to so great an Evil, This we expect from you, and hope that as they are to resettle in a state so greatly inferior and must have many difficulties to struggle with before [they] can be sufficiently at ease to form new Projects, you will [not] fail to improve this advantage to preserve and strengthen your influence with the Country Powers & prevent their making any future Grants to our prejudice. By these means We trust that those restless Neighbours who have heretofore given us so

31 MARCH 1763

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much trouble will be confined within due Bounds, and never more become formidable to us in any part of India.

We are,

Your Loving Friends,

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/J. Browne/Bour-
chier Walton/Geo. Dudley/W. Thornton/
Richd. Seward/Thos. Waters/G. Steevens/
Richd. Smith/Rt. Burrow/Wm. Snell/Richd.
Warner/Timothy Tullie/Christr. Baron/F.
W. Barrington/S. Harrison/Wm. Webber/
J. Manship/Hen. Hadley/Cha. Gough,

London
the 9th March 1763.
[Duplicate Comm. the 7th
Septr.]

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LETTER DATED 31 MARCH 1763

Fort William Board empowered to appoint courtsmartial

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. In our General Letter of the 9th of March you were informed We had purchased a sailing Vessel called the Lapwing to proceed Express to India upon the conclusion of the Negociation for Peace, the Definitive Treaty having now gone through all the regular Forms and Peace having been proclaim'd in consequence thereof on the 22nd March We now dispatch her to Fort St. George with several Letters, and by her likewise there is a Packet for you, containing the Advices mention'd in the List enclos'd therein.

2. Should the President and Council at Fort St. George deem it advantageous to us to send the Lapwing to Bengal, they are directed to transmit the several Orders and proper Papers relating to that Vessel for your observance & Compliance with the directions given on the subject.

3. The Commander of the ship Pigot is likewise entrusted with the like packets and Letters as Capt. Griffin, which Ship is now also under dispatch.

4. The Demise of his late Majesty having render'd it necessary for us to obtain his present Majesty's Warrant, empowering us to issue the proper Commissions under our Seal, relative to the holding of Courts Martial; In pursuance of such Warrant we now transmit to you by the ships Lapwing & Pigot, our Commissions authorizing you to appoint Courts Martial & to empower the Commander in Chief of detached Parties to hold such Courts. The advices we

gave under the 15th March 1754, on the subject of the Mutiny Act¹ makes any fresh Instructions at present needless.

We are,

Your Loving Friends,

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/J. Browne/ Bour-
chier Walton/Geo. Dudley/W. Thornton/
Richd. Seward/Thos. Waters/G. Steevens/
Richd. Smith/Rt. Burrow/Wm. Snell/Richd.
Warner/Timothy Tullie/Chistr. Baron/F.
W. Barrington/S. Harrison/Wm. Webber/
J. Manship/Hen. Hadley/Cha. Gough.

London 31st March 1763.

LETTER DATED 31 MARCH 1763

Transmission of copies of Treaty of Paris—directions for executing articles relating to East Indies—instructions regarding return of His Majesty's forces and military stores.

OUR Presidents and Councils, at Fort. St. George, Fort William in Bengal
Bombay, and Fort Marlborough

1. In our separate Letter of the 9th Instant, you were informed that the Definitive Treaty of Peace sign'd at Paris by the Ministers of Great Britain, France, Spain and Portugal had gone thro' all the proper forms, except of exchanging the Ratifications, that we supposed till that was done the Government would not dispatch the necessary Orders for the Execution of that part which concerns the Company; We therewith sent a copy of the 11th Article, and of an Explanatory Declaration sign'd by his Grace the Duke of Bedford; We conveyed likewise in that Letter our sense of this Treaty and pointed out to our several Presidencies what principally required their attention in the execution of it within their several Departments; We have now the pleasure of informing you that the said Treaty has been Exchanged as you will see more particularly by the enclosed Printed Copies published by authority and his Majesty's Proclamation dated the 21st Instant.

2. You will observe that the Copies of the Articles transmitted with our beforemention'd Letter differ a little in the English Translation which is literal only & not material, they were handed to us in the French Language, and the Translation made by our direction, but as you have now the opportunity of seeing the Treaty itself, that is to be your guide, having a due regard to the sense of both Languages.

3. With regard to the Governments Orders on this occasion We proceed to inform you, the Earl of Egremont one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State transmitted to us on the 21st Instant "by His Majesty's Command Copies of the 11th Article of the said Treaty relating to the East Indies, with an Extract of the 24th Article fixing the time for the Restitutions in those Countries, & also a Copy of the 23rd Article, stipulating the Restitution of all Countries and Territories which may have been conquered and which are not included in the present Treaty either of Cessions or of Restitutions, *in order that We might dispatch the necessary Orders to our Officers in the East Indies in conformity to the Stipulations abovemention'd of the Definitive Treaty*". His Lordship at the same time transmitted to Us "His Majesty's Orders to the Commanders of his Forces by Sea and Land in the East Indies, *directing them to restore any Places which may be in their possession, agreeably to the Terms of the Definitive Treaty*" which Orders his Lordship desired us to forward by the first Ship.

4. The beforemention'd Orders under his Majesty's sign manual, and countersign'd by the Earl of Egremont being communicated to us, We have the opportunity of informing you that they are separately addressed in the manner vizt. "To our Trusty & Welbeloved Major General Stringer Lawrence, Brigadier General William Draper, Colonel Eyre Coote, or to the Officer Commanding any part of our Land Forces in the East Indies, Or to the Commanding Officer in any Islands or Places which shall have been taken possession of by our Arms.

"To our Trusty and Welbeloved Samuel Cornish Esqr. Vice Admiral^I of the Blue and Commander in Chief of our Fleet in the East Indies, or in his absence to the Officer Commanding in Chief any part of our said Fleet Or to the Commanding Officer in any Islands or Places which shall have been taken possession of by our Arms."

5. Each of the said Orders run exactly in the same Words, wherein after reciting the Articles of the Treaty it is added "Our Will and Pleasure is, That you do pursuant to the stipulations above recited, deliver or cause to be deliver'd to such Commissary or Commissaries, as shall be named and authorized, on the part of Our said Good Brother the most Christian King to receive the same *any of the Factories under your Command* which are to be restored to France in the Condition they now are in, agreeably to the Stipulations of the 11th & 24th Articles of the Definitive Treaty abovemention'd, and also that you do deliver or cause to be deliver'd to the Commissary or Commissaries duly authorized to receive the same any Countries or Territories which may be to be restored to France or Spain, in consequence of the Twenty third Article of the said Treaty; And it is our further Will and Pleasure, That, you should take the necessary measures, with the French Commissaries, that Nattal and Tappanouly in the Island of Sumatra, and all that France may have conquered from Great Britain in the East Indies during the present War be restored agreeably to the Stipulations of the said 11th Article of the Definitive Treaty; as well as with the French & Spanish Commissaries for the restitution of any other Conquests, which may have been made upon Our Establishments in the

East Indies, by the Arms of the most Christian & Catholick Kings, and which are to be restored in consequence of the 23rd Article of the said Definitive Treaty; And that the same be restored at the same time that Restitution is made of any Conquests which have been made by any of our Forces under your Command, upon the French or Spanish Establishments. And for so doing this shall be your Warrant, Given at our Court at St. James's the sixteenth day of March 1763, in the Third year of our Reign."

6. Having been favoured with Copies of the Earl of Egremonts Letters to Major General Lawrence & Vice Admiral Cornish under date of the 21st of March, which accompany his Majesty's beforemention'd Orders, in them are the following Paragraphs. vizt.

7. In that to General Lawrence are these Words "*With regard to the Restitutions, and other Arrangements in the East Indies, the Company will send the necessary Orders to their Servants, & the enclosed Sign manual will fully authorize you and all other his Majesty's Officers to deliver up any places, to be restored either to France or Spain, which may remain under your Command.*"

8. To Vice Admiral Cornish "I send you the enclosed Sign Manual, which will fully Authorize you & all other His Majesty's Officers to deliver up any Places to be restored either to France or Spain, *which may remain under your Command.*"

9. We have thought it necessary to lay the before going Extracts together that you may at one view form a true Idea of his Majesty's & the Governments Orders with respect to the carrying into Execution the Treaty so far as regards the Company, but for greater certainty We send and refer you to Copies of all the Letters and Papers relative thereto, as also of others concerning the subsequent parts of this Letter.

10. As our beforemention'd Separate Letter of the 9th Instant, which contains our Sentiments upon and directions for carrying into Execution the Treaty on the part of the Company was laid before His Majesty's Ministers in form, and as no Objection was made thereto, We may well conclude they were approved of, especially as from the before recited Letters it appears We were admitted to send the necessary Orders with regard to the Restitutions & other Arrangements. From the said Letters it seems also *That the Kings Land and Sea Officers are to be concern'd for restoring such Places only as may be in their Possession.* Be that as it may, it is earnestly recommended to Our respective Presidents & Councils to take the most prudent measures in concert with his Majesty's Officers to carry into Execution in the most effectual manner the Treaty of Peace agreeable to the several Articles relative to the Company & to the Governments and our beforemention'd Instructions; And as we apprehend His Majesty's & the Governments Orders go only in Duplicate to Fort St. George, proper care must be taken that they are forwarded to whatever other place where they may be wanted, or at least Transcripts thereof authenticated in such a manner by His Majesty's Officers to whom they are directed, as may prevent any the least disappointment. The like care must b.

taken by our other Presidencies in case it so happens any Original Orders come to them.

11. We shall depend principally upon Our presidency of Fort St. George, for having Nattal and Tappanoully restored & they are to take the necessary measures accordingly; however Our other Presidencies are to have this Object equally in view & particularly that at Fort Marlboro'.

12. We recommend it to all our Presidencies to concert the necessary measures for bringing from the French Islands the Prisoners and all the Chinese which were taken by Count d'Estaing in the late War upon the West Coast of Sumatra, and for Settling them against upon the said West Coast.

13. And We most earnestly recommend a most punctual Compliance with all our Orders for Stating and transmitting to us exact Accounts properly authenticated of all Advances which have been made to or Expences on account of French Prisoners, that We may recover who shall appear due on those Accounts agreeable to the Third Article of the Definitive Treaty.

14. His Majesty has been most graciously pleased on our Request to signify his pleasure to the Right Honble. the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that out of the Squadron now in India, they do order two Ships of the Line & one Frigate, such as their Lordships shall judge the properest, and in the best condition for that Service to remain in India for such time as their Lordships shall think sufficient in order to give any proper Assistance in the Arrangements to be taken in consequence of the Definitive Treaty, as well as to protect the Trade from Pirates, which it is apprehended may infest the Indian Seas after the War; And it is the Kings further pleasure, that their Lordships do order all the rest of the Squadron to return forthwith to Europe, taking on board as many of the Officers and Soldiers who shall be to be brought back, as the said Ships can accommodate with any Convenience on the proper Officers concerting with the Commanders of the Land Forces, the proper times & places for Embarking the said Officers & Soldiers.

15. In consequence of our application to the King his Majesty is graciously pleased to permit & the necessary Orders are to be given accordingly, such of the Ensigns of His Regiments of Foot, of the Lieutenants of the Artillery, and of the Non-Commission Officers and Private Men in both Corps, as shall chuse it, and as shall engage with the Company to remain in India, which permission General Lawrence is directed not only to make known in a proper manner to the said Officers & Men, but also to encourage them to enter into our Service, and he is particularly to acquaint the Officers by so doing they will not lose their Rank in his Majesty's Army. He is also directed that with regard to such Officers & Men as shall not think proper to remain with the Company it is the Kings pleasure that they do immediately return to Europe, for which purpose the Commander in Chief of the Squadron in India will have orders to receive on board the Kings Ships as many of the Officers & Men as they can accommodate, and such of them as shall not be so disposed of

are to be brought to Europe on board the Company's Ships and at the Company's Expence. He is further directed immediately to concert, as well with the Commander of the Kings Ships as with our Servants the proper times & places for Embarking the Men, with as much expedition as shall be practicable.

16. His Majesty has been also pleased to comply with our Request for the Proper Officers of His Majesty's Troops, delivering the Ordnance, Muskets & all other Warlike Articles to the Company's Servants, on their taking especial care that the proper Lists and Receipts are taken for them by the Officers of the Ordnance, who will receive from the Master General any directions that may be requisite to be dispatch'd by the Board of Ordnance for this purpose.

17. Having given you the foregoing information with respect to His Majesty's Ships, His Troops and the Warlike Stores to be deliver'd to our use We recommend it to our several Presidencies to concert and settle with His Majesty's Officers the necessary measures for effectually carrying every part into Execution, and Fort St. George Presidency in particular is to take care that proper notices & directions are given to the other Presidencies, lest his Majesty's Orders should be forwarded only to Fort St. George.

18. As to the Ordnance and Military Stores such only are to be received as shall upon a strict Examination appear to be perfectly serviceable, for which Receipts are to be given in order for our accounting for the same with the Board of Ordnance.

19. Altho' we flatter ourselves by far the greatest number of the Subaltern Officers & Private Men of the several Corps will by your endeavours & the encouragement you are empower'd by our former Letters to make use of be induced to engage in the Company's Service, yet as some of them may not be prevailed upon, and it will be proper to have all the Invalids brought home, You are to apply to the Captains of his Majesty's returning Ships to bring as many of them as they can accommodate, agreeable to his Majestys Orders. As to the rest you are to give the Commanders of our own Ships Orders to receive as many on board as will compleat their Ships Complement if they happen to be deficient therein & as many more as they can conveniently take in upon the Charterparty Terms, which you will observe are Ten Pounds a Head.

20. With respect to Officers, we recommend it to you to use your best endeavours that the Captains of the King's Ship[s] do agreeable to His Majestys Orders bring as many home as they can, but such as cannot have a Passage in that manner are to be accommodated in Our returning Shipping; You are therefore to give the Commanders Orders to receive them accordingly, for whom an Allowance will be made similar to what was done when they went from England vizt. to the Owners of the respective Ships Ten pounds for each Officer & to the Commanders of the Ships for Dieting them in a handsome manner at their own Tables, Fifty pounds for each Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel and Major, & for all other Commission Officers £30 each.

21. All the said several Sums as well for the Officers as private Men will be paid by Us & not in India of which you are to inform the Commanders of the several Ships on which they take passage.

22. You will observe that this will be a heavy Expence and therefore you must not give the least encouragement to any Gentleman to expect a larger Allowance to be made for his passage. If they want any further Accommodations it must (as in reason it ought) be at their own Charge.

We are,

Your Loving Friends,

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/J. Browne/ Bouchier Walton/Geo. Dudley/W. Thornton/
Richd. Seward/Tho. Waters/G. Steevens/
Richd. Smith/Rt. Burrow/Wm. Snell/Richd.
Warner/Timothy Tullie/Christr. Baron/
F. W. Barrington/S. Harrison/Wm. Webber/
J. Manship/ Hen. Hadley/ Cha. Gough.

London
the 31st March 1763.
[Cons. the 7th Septr.]

27

LETTER DATED 6 APRIL 1763

Russian officers receiving training in navigation to be accommodated on Company's ships.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. By this Ship the British King Captain Peter Pigou Commander (which from various Causes We have not been able to dispatch till now) We send you Transcripts of Our General and Separate Letter under dates of the 9th & 31st of last Month together with all other necessary Letters and Papers for the particulars of which you are referr'd to the List of the Packet.

2. As you are likewise for the Invoices and Bills of Lading of the Several Goods consigned to you by the said Ship.

3. The Right Hon'ble the Earl of Halifax one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State having upon an Application made to His Majesty on the part of the Empress of Russia signified some Months since His Majesty's Pleasure to the Lords of the Admiralty, that a certain Number of Sea Officers should be received on board some of His Majesty's Ships of War in different Stations in order to their perfecting themselves in the Science and Business of Navigation, and that the Intention was that six of those Officers sho'd have embarked on board any Men of War that might have sailed to the East Indies if the War had continued, but as the Peace is since happily concluded, and those

Gentlemen are actually arrived in expectation of being so disposed of, the Earl of Halifax by the Royal Command has signified to us, that it will be very agreeable to His Majesty to permit the said Six Russian Officers to make the Voyage to India and back on board the Company's Ships. We have accordingly given Order to the Commanders of Ships British King bound to the Coast and Bay & the Talbot and Speaker for Bombay, each of them to receive two of the said Officers on board, to afford them all proper Accommodations and use them Civilly, they having satisfied the said Commanders for the same.

4. Upon the Arrival of the said Ships We would have you enquire whether the said Russian Officers have met with proper Usage, and if they have any Complaints to make, see that they are redressed and you are further to shew them all proper Civilities when they have occasion at any time to be on shore.

We are

Your Loving Friends

London

the 6th April 1763.

[Recd.
Cons. }

19th Jany. 1764]

Thos. Rous/John Dorrien/Cha. Gough/Hen.
Hadley/W. Thornton/Wm. Snell/Bourchier
Walton/Richd. Seward/J. Manship/Tho.
Waters/F. W. Barrington/Richd. Smith/G.
Steevens/Wm. Webber/John Browne/Richd.
Warner/Timothy Tullie/Christr. Baron/Rt.
Burrow/Geo. Dudley.

LETTER DATED 27 APRIL 1763

Conquest of Manila—the British suspected by the Dutch of inciting natives in Ceylon—discontinuance of payments on account of Clive's jagir.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. On the 15th Instant late at night Captain Robert Fletcher who arrived in His Majesty's Ship the Sea Horse brought Us the agreeable News of the taking of Manilha and the Conditions upon which that Place and the whole Island of Luconia in which it is situated, with all the rest of the Philippine Islands dependant thereon Surrendered as advised by Mr. Dawsonne Drake and Council in their Letter under date of the 10th of November last, by which Letter We have likewise the further pleasing Information, that General Draper delivered over to them to be held for the Company the City of Manilha with it's beforementioned dependencies in the most satisfactory manner. About the same time General Draper and Capt. Kempensfelt arrived with the like News for the Government, which they immediately communicated the first to the Earl of Egremont one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and Capt. Kemperfelt to the Lords of the Admiralty,

the Particulars of what those Gentlemen brought have been Published by Authority in the Gazettes of the 16th and 19th Instant which are inclosed.

2. Since the late Election of Directors for the ensuing Year, We have appointed John Dorrien Esqr. Our Chairman, Laurence Sullivan Esqr. Deputy Chairman with George Amyand, John Boyd and Henry Crabb Boulton Esquires Our Committee of Secrecy to whose Orders or of any Three of those Gentlemen all due Obedience is to be paid.

3. We have been acquainted by The Right Hon'ble the Earl of Halifax one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State That the Dutch East India Company are preparing to send Reinforcements to Batavia consisting of Five Ships extraordinary upon suspicion of some designs being formed against them by the Natives of Ceylon and fomented as they pretend by the English, a Copy of His Lordships Letter to Us, together with the Extracts from Sir Joseph Yorke's Letters therein referred to We now transmit to You for your better information; We shall take all proper measures with His Majesty's Ministers to prevent as far as We are able the Dutch Company making use of this Extraordinary Reinforcement against the Company, however it will be incumbent on you to have a careful Eye upon the Proceedings of the Dutch & to be constantly on your Guard against any attempts they may make to Our prejudice.

4. This Morning the Earl of Elgin's Purser brought the agreeable News of that Ship's safe Arrival off Beachy Head, she Sailed from St. Helena the 17th of February and left there the Godolphin and Admiral Watson, the first of these Ships having lost 40 Men on the Passage, and many of those who remain'd alive, were very bad with the Scurvy.

5. With respect to the Jagueer given by the late Nabob Jaffair Ally Khan to Lord Clive arising out of the Lands granted by the said Nabob to the Company, We direct that you do not pay any further Sums to the Attorney of Lord Clive on that Account, and We further direct that whatever shall arise in future from the said Jagueer be carried to Our Credit, You are to cause exact Accounts to be made out & transmitted to Us not only of what shall so come into Our Cash, but also of all the Sums Lord Clive's Attorneys have already received on the said Account together with the Dates of the several Payments. His Lordship's Pretensions to the said Jagueer will be settled here.

We are

Your Loving Friends

John Dorrien/Lau. Sullivan/George Amyand/
Chas. Cutts/Richd. Warner/Wm. Snell/G.
Rooke/J. Purling/Richd. Seward/Hen. Hadley/
G. Steevens/Fredk. Pigou/John Harrison/
John Browne/Charles Chambers/Timothy
Tullie/Robt. Burrow/Chrstr. Baron/Wm.
Webber/W. Thornton.

London
the 27th April 1763
[Recd. }
Cons. } 19th Jany. 1764

[ENCLOSURE]

[Vide para. 3]

St. James's 25th April 1763.

Gentlemen,

Having received, by the last Mail from Holland, an Information from the King's Ambassador there, in relation to some Reinforcements, which the Dutch East India Company are preparing to send to their Settlements in the Island of Ceylon, upon suspicion of some Designs being formed against them by the Natives, and fomented, as they pretend, by the English; His Majesty has thought it of consequence, that you should be acquainted with every Intelligence of that kind, and I therefore send you a Copy of what I have received from Sir Joseph Yorke upon the subject abovementioned.

I am & ca.

(Sign'd) Dunk Halifax

Having received since writing the above, some further Intelligence from Sir Joseph Yorke, relative to the proceedings of the Dutch East India Company, I add a Copy of the same likewise for your Information.

Directors of the East India Company.

Extract of Sir Joseph Yorke's Letter to the Earl of Halifax,
Hague 19th April 1763

The Dutch East India Company I find have some suspicion of Designs being formed by the Natives of the Country against their Settlements in Ceylon, which they are too ready to suppose are fomented by the English; As neither Complaints are made, nor Questions asked of me, it is not easy to proceed regularly to get at the bottom of the Affair; or to undeceive them; they intend however to send out some Reinforcements to those parts, which makes it necessary for me to give Your Lordship Information of what I learn.

Extract of Sir Joseph Yorke's Letter to the Earl of Halifax,
Hague 22nd April 1763

The Dutch East India Company has just made its annual verbal Report to the States General of the Situation of their Affairs in India; The two principal points, which have been dwelt upon the most, are what relates to Bengal and to Ceylon.

I find that they renewed their Sollicitations to their High Mightinesses, to press the Conclusion of their Negotiation with the English Company in relation to Bengal, where they say, their Establishment at present cost them more than it is worth, and that two ships only are returned from thence, instead of four, and five which they received formerly.

With regard to Ceylon, the Returns from thence have been pretty favorable, considering the War the Company has upon it's hands with the King of Candi, and the Insurgents in Ceylon¹, who had once got possession of their Fort of Madre, but it has been retaken from them by the Company, and it was upon this occasion that the Suspicions arose against the English, as encouraging their Enemies, because among the Artillery taken from the latter was found an English Cannon a Twelve Pounder. I could not discover, that any other Proof had been produced to corroborate this Suspicion, nor do I believe there was. In this situation it is confirmed to me, that the Dutch Company has resolved to send a considerable Reinforcement to Batavia, and that five Ships Extraordinary will be fitted out this year for that purpose.

29

LETTER DATED 13 MAY 1763

Directions regarding drafts on Court of Directors—commission on Bengal revenues to President Vansittart—Mir Qasim's refusal to pay 20 lakhs appreciated—William Ellis to be transferred from Patna to Bombay owing to impolitic behaviour.

OUR President and Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. We have now the satisfaction of informing you of the safe Arrival of the Admiral Watson at St. Hellens on the 2nd Instant. That Ship Left St. Helena the 8th of March, the Godolphin and Fox only remaining there and were to leave the Island in about Ten Days after.

2. By the Admiral Watson We have received your General Advices of the 8th and 26th of April and 30th October 1762. One Letter dated 1762 the month and day in Blank and one other of the said 30th of October both from the Select Committee, also the Presidents Letters under the 8th of April and 26th of October 1762.

3. In our Letters of last Season to Our several Presidencys We particularly and strongly recommended the employing the Winchelsea in the most advantageous manner for the Benefit of Captain Howe as far as could be done consistently with the Interest of the Company, We now remind you of and renew our said Recommendations as We do also to Our other Presidencys and direct that after the Receipt of this the Said Ship have the Preference of being employed another Season according to Our said Recommendations and in such manner as will fully answer Our Intentions, Provided as before observed it will coincide with the Companys Interest.

4. With respect to the Ships of this Season You will observe to employ the Lord Clive Capt. Webber agreeable to the Recommendation in Our Letter of the 9th March if it shall be necessary to detain any of them a Season extraordinary.

5. In Answer to the 41st Paragraph of your General Letter of the 8th of April 1762 wherein You take notice of the Great Draughts You made upon Us by Bill of Exchange that Season and say That as We had not limited You to any particular Sum You thought it improper to refuse any Money that was tendered You for Bills, especially as it enabled You to send home five Ships with full Cargoes also a Supply of Treasure to Canton and desiring Us to signify Our Directions whether We would have you go beyond a certain Yearly Sum, We have already in Our Letter of the 9th of March 1763 given you Our Sentiments upon your said Extraordinary Draughts & the inconvenience they laid us under, Altho' your Finances at that time might then render such a Measure necessary We flatter ourselves it will not again be the case, with respect to limiting You to a particular Annual Sum We think it cannot be done with any degree of certainty, You must therefore cause a Calculate to be drawn out in the most correct & careful manner of such moneys you shall really stand in need of Annually for the various uses, demands and Expectations of your own Presidency, Our others, & the China Trade and draw upon Us to such an Amount and no more on any pretence whatsoever as You shall so really stand in need of agreeable to the Rules laid down in Our General Letter of the 1st April 1760 until you receive Our further Orders.

6. In our Letter of the 13th March 1761 We allowed President Vansittart Two and a half P Cent on our Nett Revenues including all the Grants from Jaffier Ally Cawn & this We confirm as a settled & invariable Emolument to every Governour.

7. But as the great Encrease of Our Revenues arising out of the Provinces granted Us by Cossim Ally Cawn¹ and the vast improvement of those Revenues are principally owing to the wise, prudent and disinterested Conduct of President Vansittart We think it but reasonable that he, who preferring Our Interests to all other Considerations, should participate in those benefits he has been so instrumental in acquiring for Us.

8. We therefore direct that so long as Mr. Vansittart shall continue in the Government of Bengal he be allowed a Commission of Two and a half P Cent on all such nett Revenues, as have or may arise out of the abovementioned Grants from Cossim Ally Cawn, and that the Payment Commences with the Cession of those Countries, and We hereby supersede the Order in the 79th Paragraph of Our Letter of the 9th March 1763 P Lapwing &ca referring this matter to Our future Consideration.

9. This additional Emolument is expressly to be understood as a distinct Reward due to the Personal merit of President Vansittart and is absolutely to cease upon his quitting the Government; it is not to be claimed or any ways pretended to by our future Governours whose fixed Emoluments, very handsome and extensive, We repeat to You is confin'd to Our Orders and Regulations of the 13th March 1761.

10. Although We have not time by this dispatch to enter into the particulars contained in your Advices received as beforementioned by the Admiral

Watson, yet We must take notice, That We cannot comprehend upon what Grounds the majority of the Council, contrary to the Remonstrances made by the President against it, could venture to authorize Mr. Hastings, to demand of the Nabob in Our Name Twenty Lack of Rupees, upon the bare pretence, that he had made an Offer of that Sum to Mr. Vansittart and the Select Committee at the time of making the Treaty for his accession and which had been then so properly and so honourably refused, We rejoice at the Just and Spirited Refusal he gave to that Unwarrantable demand.

11. And that We may vindicate Ourselves in the mind of the Nabob from such unfavourable Impressions, which this demand or other unfavourable Circumstances must naturally have left upon him, We direct, that the President in your Name do in the most respectful manner by Letter acquaint him, that We are truly sorry that the conduct of any of Our Servants has given him Umbrage, or created him a moment's distrust of the sincerity of Our Friendship, that We totally disapprove, and shall properly resent, all such misbehaviour, And to assure him that it is Our most earnest wish, and Our positive Orders to you (which We strictly direct) that Our Servants join him in every reasonable measure for his Support and Welfare and observe every engagement entered into with him. You will acquaint him likewise, that We shall have the honour to give him these Assurances by Letter the next opportunity, the Ship Pitt being upon the Point of her departure We have not leisure to do it now.

12. The Letter wrote to you by the Nabob and entered in your Consultations the 14th June 1762 remonstrates so strongly against the extraordinary and most indecent behaviour of Mr. Ellis that We can but be astonished you left him a moment after the receipt of it, in the Station you had placed him, His Conduct in this and on other occasions by continually setting on foot some Dispute or other with the Nabob or his People in the Patna Province appears to Us to merit Our highest resentment, as tending to break up all that Peace it is Our most essential Interest to have preserved, and by exceeding all Bounds of his Authority, sacrificing Our Honour and Interest to his own purposes and Resentment.

13. We have therefore determined, and do accordingly hereby direct, That Mr. William Ellis cease to be our Servant upon the Bengal Establishment from the Receipt of this Letter, And his Vacancy as Third in Council is to be filled up by Mr. John Spencer from Bombay that is to say next below Mr. Peter Amyatt, And as We have a high opinion of Mr. Spencer's Abilities, We recommend it to You to appoint him Chief of Patna, We give him Notice of his removal to Bengal by the Speaker, and you'll forward the Inclosed Letter confirming it by such other Conveyance as may offer that no time may be lost in his coming to his said Station.

14. Mr. Stanlake Batson's Intemperate Conduct convinces Us that it is not proper to leave him at Cossimbuzar, You are therefore to recall

him from thence and not to appoint him to any other Subordinate Settlement, till you have our further directions.

15. And the better to Conciliate the Nabob, and to shew Our great Regard to his quiet and Welfare, You are also to Signify to him Our Resentment of Mr. Ellis and Mr. Batson's misconduct by removing the former out of his Dominions and recalling the other from Cossimbuzar.

16. However necessary it became to remove Mr. Ellis We are not willing to displace him totally from Our Service, We give him the Option, and have given directions accordingly to Our Governor and Council at Bombay, that he succeeds Mr. Spencer, in the same Station that Gentleman stands in the Bombay Council, which is next below Mr. William Andrew Price. If Mr. Ellis declines this he is to return to England.

17. In case Mr. Spencer does not chuse to accept of the beforementioned Appointment at Your Presidency, Mr. William Andrew Price likewise at present one of the Bombay Council is to proceed immediately from thence to succeed Mr. Ellis in your Council as before directed with respect to Mr. Spencer.

18. Upon Mr. Ellis's proceeding to Bombay he is in the last mentioned case to take Rank in the Council there next after Mr. Spencer.

19. In the intermediate time between the removal of Mr. Ellis and the Arrival of Mr. Spencer, You are to appoint the most unexceptionable Person to fill up the Chiefship of Patna.

20. If through the lateness of the Season Cap. Jackson of the Pitt finds it too late to get to Fort St. George he is directed in such case to make the best of his way to Bengal and there land and deliver all the Soldiers and Consignments intended for the first named place, and after receiving such Treasure & Goods as You shall think proper to Lade, and upon his receiving his Dispatches from You, he is to make the best of his way to Canton agreeable to the design of his Voyage.

21. That you may be acquainted with the design of the Pitts Voyage You are hereby authorized and directed to open the Packet for the President and Council of Fort St. George wherein You will find a full Information on this point and You are to take all the Steps therein directed in the same manner as if addressed to You particularly with respect to sending Treasure to Canton.

22. You are afterwards by the first opportunity to forward the Packet to Fort St. George, and acquaint the President and Council with the reasons of your opening of it, and if proper Conveyances offer, We would have you forward the Packets enclosed for Our other Presidencies as soon as You can.

23. With respect to the Troops You are also to send them to Fort St. George by the first good Conveyances as likewise all the Consignments for that Presidency.

We are

Your Loving Friends.

John Dorrien/Lau. Sullivan/George Amyand/
Chas. Cutts/Fredk. Pigou/Rich. Warner/Will.
Barwell/G. Rooke/G. Steevens/Robt. Burrow/
Hen. Hadley/John. Browne/John Harrison/
Timothy Tullie/Charles Chambers/W. Thornton/Wm. Snell/J. Purling/Richd. Seward/
John Boyd/Wm. Webber.

London

13th May 1763.

[Cons. 18 Feby., 1764]

30

LETTER DATED 16 MAY 1763

Representations regarding Dutch preparations

TO the Hon'ble the President and Council of Fort William in Bengal.
Gentlemen,

In the Letter to you from the Court of Directors under date of the 27th of April you were acquainted with the Informations communicated by the Right Hon'ble the Earl of Halifax relating to the Dutch Armament and what they alledged to be the occasion of it, and that the Court would take all proper Measures on this occasion, Representations were accordingly made to the Ministry to which the Earl of Halifax returned an answer the 13th instant, a Copy of which you will receive herewith*, it not coming to hand until the General Letters by this Conveyance were Closed and Signed.

I am

With great Respect Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient and
most Humble Servant

Robt. James
Secry.

East India House

London, 16th May 1763.

[Cons. 18 Feby., 1764]

31

LETTER DATED 30 DECEMBER 1763

News of Manila expedition divulged to the French owing to carelessness of Telli-cherry servants—instructions regarding shipping—Residents and Supercargoes for

* Missing from the volume available in the N.A.I.

China Council—procurement of slaves from Madagascar—details of exports for various Presidencies—superfine cloth for Chinese emperor—directions about investment—languishing condition of the French East India Company—disputes with the Dutch yet unsettled—military recruits for various settlements—strength of military establishment in Bengal—terms and conditions of Brig. General John Caillaud's appointment as C.-in-C. of Bengal—harmonious relations with Mir Qasim urged—composition of Select Committee at Fort William.

OUR President & Council at Fort William in Bengal.

1. Our last Letters bore dates the 27th April & 13th May the former went in Triplicate by the Ships British King, Pitt & Speaker & the other in Duplicate by the two last named Ships, a Triplicate We now send by the Caernarvon—Our Secretary also wrote you on the 16th May, enclosing a Copy of the Earl of Halifax's Letter of the 13th of that Month concerning an Armament said to be preparing by the Dutch for the East Indies.

2. The British King sailed from Spithead on the 30th April last, & the Speaker & Pitt on the 19th of the following Month.

3. Since the date of Our beforementioned Advices the following Letters relative to your Presidency and its Dependancies have come to Our hands vizt.

Separate General Letter dated the 8th April 1762 received P Godolphin.

General Letters under dates of the 13th and 18th Decemr. 1762, and a Letter from Mr. Amyatt dated the 16th with a Postscript of the 18th Decemr. 1762 P Tilbury.

General Letter of the 14th Feby. 1763, Also Letter from the Select Committee of the same date & one From President Van Sittart dated the 20th of the same Month, Received P Drake.

4. We informed you in Our Letter of the 27th April that John Dorrien Esqr. Our Chairman, Laurence Sullivan Deputy, with George Amyand, John Boyd & Henry Crabb Boulton Esqrs. were appointed Our Committee of Secrecy during the present direction. We are only now to acquaint you that the said Committee still consists of the same Gentlemen and that their Orders are to have all due Obedience paid to them.

5. We have the pleasure of informing you of the safe Arrival of the following Ships since Our last Advices vizt. the Fox from Bengal & Fort St. George, with the Godolphin from Bengal directly on the 9th June; the Royal Captain and Tilbury, the first from China, the other Bengal, the 2[2?] of that Month; the Horsendon, Royal Charlotte, True Briton and Harcourt, all from China on the 14th & 15th July; the Drake & Hardwicke from Bengal the 17th and 19th August; the Albion and Essex from China, last from Manilha, first the 24th September & the latter the 10th October, likewise the Prince of Wales & Clive from Bombay the 28th November and the Clinton from Fort St. George on the 7th December.

6. Our Pleasure upon the safe Arrival of so many Ships has met with some Abatements upon receiving Advices by them of the Capture of the Walpole Outward bound near Ceylon in September 1762 by the French & the Loss of the Elizabeth by Fire at the Mouth of Canton River in January last under her Dispatches for England fully loaded—Very happily for the Company no other Ships met with the Walpole's Fate especially the Bengal ones; their Safety We attribute to the prudent Measures you took upon receiving Intelligence of the Station of the French Cruiser.

7. We cannot avoid taking Notice in this place of an unaccountable Piece of Conduct in the Chief & Council at Tellicherry who sent off Mr. Taylor one of their Members with a Letter addrest to Capt. Tinker of His Majesty's Ship Medway, who was off that Port the Night before, Mr. Taylor by some strange Carelessness, got aboard the Expedition a French Frigate in the Offing, instead of the Medway, in which he was detained three days & the French thereby made themselves Masters of the important Intelligence in the said Letter of Admiral Cornish's having sailed some time before upon the Expedition to Manilha one Consequence of which was, that Monsr. Paliere with three French Men of War, had not only an uninterrupted Range for a considerable time to the great Hazard of Our Trade in general, but was encouraged to cruise in Ballasore Road upwards of a Month, by which several Ships bound to & from your Presidency, were exposed to imminent Danger, We mention these Circumstances not barely to lay open the Conduct of Our Servants at Tellicherry, but that they may be a Caution to you, & that you observe it as a Standing Rule in future to be extremely careful to prevent at all times by every prudent Measure, Letters or Intelligence of consequence falling into improper hands.

8. For a particular Account of the Arrival & Departure of Shipping We refer you to the Lists We send as usual in the Several Packets.

9. We have the Satisfaction of informing you that Our Packet by the Houghton for Fort St. George which you put on board a Schooner for that Presidency, & which was taken by the said French Cruisers, contained nothing more than Duplicates of the Advices by the Grosvenor [and] Ashburnham.

10. The Ships taken up on freight this Season for carrying on the Company's Trade, their Destination and the Times purposed for their departure are as follow, being each let to us for 499 Tons vizt.

		Time [proposed for dispatch]
Pss. Augusta.....	Captn. Thomas Baddison	St. Helena, Bencoolen } dispatched
Duke of Richmond.	Benjamin Godfrey	
Earl of Holdernesse.....	Robert Brooke	Bencoolen & China } now under dispatch
Norfolk.....	John Sandys	China directly

Duke of Glouces- ter.....	Capt. Robert Burdett	}latter end of Jan.		
Worcester	Richard Hall	Under dispatch		
Lord Holland	Fasham Nairn		}	Fort St. George and China	beginning of February
Earl of Lincoln.....	Peter Hardwicke				
Northumber- land	John Mitford				
Caernarvon	Norton Hutchison	}	}	under dispatch	
Devonshire	Andrew Quicke				
Vansittart	Richard Lewin		}	Coast & Bay	beginning of February
Duke of Albany	James Haldane				
York.....	Peter Lascelles	}	Bombay & China	}	about latter end of March
Anson	Edward Lord Chick				
London.....	John Webb				
[.....]	Cornelius Inglis				
Calcutta	George Thomson				
[.....]	John Milles				

11. Besides the beforementioned the Company's own Ship the Admiral Watson Capt. John Blewitt Commander of 400 Tons carrying 80 Men & 24 Guns, proceeds to Fort Marlboro' to carry such part of the[ir] Stares and Necessaries as the Princess Augusta, Duke of Richmond & Earl of Holderness could not take in.

12. The York one of the Ships in the foregoing List is to continue in India to be the Annual Ship from Bombay to China early in the Year 1765, with a Cargo as usual to the Amount of Forty Thousand pounds until which time she is to be employed in such manner as will be most for the Company's Advantage.

13. In case by any Accident the York cannot be sent to China, then the New Ship Capt. Inglis is to be sent thither in her stead. But if the York can proceed thither & there shall be a Necessity for detaining a Ship extraordinary in India for want of an Europe Cargo or on any other unavoidable occasion, & it may be expedient for the Company's Interest to send another Ship besides the York to China, then the New Ship Capt. Inglis is to be the Ship so to be sent with a Cargo to as large an Amount as the York's if possible,

in which Measure Our Presidencies of Fort St. George & Bengal are to be assisting to that of Bombay. But if upon a due Consideration of all Circumstances it shall not appear to be necessary to send two Ships on that Voyage, then the New Ship Capt. Inglis is to have the preference of proceeding to Bengal as hereunder mentioned.

14. It is to be observed from the foregoing List of Ships taken into Our Service there are but four destined for bringing home the Investments from the Coast & Bay, which certainly are not sufficient for that purpose; and that there are six Ships bound to Bombay to carry the large Consignments to that Presidency, one of which, the York, is to be sent to China, and of the remaining five there is good reason to believe only two or three at most can possibly be laden home from thence, it is right therefore that the supernumerary Ships should [be] sent to the Assistance of Bengal and Fort St. George for bringing home the Investments from those Presidencies, which are to be the New Ship-Captn. Inglis (if not employed as mentioned in the preceding Paragraph) the Anson Captn. Chick, the London, Captn. Webb & the Calcutta Capt. Thomson, if three or four are wanted & can be spared for this Service, but if two only, they are to be the two first named Ships. The said ships so to be sent a[re] to be deemed Coast & Bay Ships & dispatched home with proper Cargos from that Side of India accordingly, the same Season they arrive. It is recommended to the President & Council of Bombay to use their Endeavours to make their Run to the Coast & Bay turn out to the best Advantage by either lading suitable Cargoes on the Company's Account, or letting them to freight, taking care at the same time they are dispatched so early as not to run the least hazard of their Passage home. It is also particularly recommended to the said President and Council to send Capt. Inglis first to Bengal, as to the other ship or Ships they are to act discretionally as to their being consigned to the Coast or Bay, giving preference in the Order We have named them as before, being Our meaning that in all Events Capt. Inglis is to proceed to Bengal.

15. If it shall happen that it may be necessary [to] send a Ship from Bengal to Bombay provided it can [be] done so as that she may be dispatched from the last mentioned Place in time for saving her Passage home the same Season We recommend the Devonshire Capt. Quicke for that Service.

16. As upon the Return of Peace it is reasonable to expect We should take up Our Shipping upon better Terms than in time of War, the Freight & Rate of Demorage are accordingly lower'd, as you will observe by the several Ships Charterparties, tho' not so much as We hope for another Year. With respect to other Stipulations they are much upon the footing of the three preceeding Seasons, but for particulars you are referr'd to a careful perusal of the said Charterparties.

17. The Coast & Bay Ships you will find by the charterparties carry half Kintlage in Iron, and We now inform you that the Bombay Ships have none, You will therefore take care that a sufficient Quantity of Salt Petre

is laden on each Ship under your direction to answer the purpose of Kintlage & to make up her Cargo as nearly upon an Equality with other Ships as you can, and We shall depend upon you for supplying Our Presidencies of Fort St. George & Bombay agreeable to Our repeated Orders, with sufficient Quantities of that Article to answer their respective Demands for the said Purposes.

18. The Council of Supra Cargos appointed for the Management of the Company's Affairs in China the ensuing Season consists of the following named Gentlemen vizt. Thomas Fitzhugh, Samuel Blount, George Mandevile, Nathaniel Garland, William Mackenzie, Alexander Hume, Stephen de Visme, Thomas Smith, Mann Horner, William Rous & William Harrison.

19. The Ships which are to be under the Management and direction of the said Council are the Latham or any other which shall be sent from Bombay to Canton in her stead in 1764, & all such as shall in the course of that Season arrive there from the Company's Settlements in India destitute of Supra Cargos customarily called Casual Ships, also the Princess Augusta & Duke of Rich[mond] bound first to St. Helena & the West Coast of Sumatra and thence to Canton, the Worcester, Duke of Gloucester, Lord Holland, Earl of Lincoln and Northumberland for Fort St. George and China the Earl of Holderness for the West Coast & China and the Norfolk bound directly to Canton, also any other Ship or Ships We may think proper to order.

20. Messrs. Mandevile & Harrison take passage on the Norfolk, Mr. Mackenzie on the Worcester, and Mr. de Visme on the Lord Holland. All the rest of the Gentlemen are now in China.

21. The Supra Cargos appointed Our Residents at Canton for the Year 1765 are Messrs. Fitzhugh, Blount, Garland, Mackenzie, de Visme, Smith & Rous, Who are as usual to conduct & take care of the Company's Affairs upon the departure of such of the Council as are to leave China in the Season of the Year 1764, & before the Arrival of those Supra Cargos We shall appoint as Members for the succeeding Council.

22. We have appointed Messrs. Thomas Fitzhugh, Samuel Blount & Nathl. Garland or the three first and principal Resident Supra Cargos in China for the time being to be a Select Committee to correspond & settle Measures with the Select Committee at Fort Marlborough for introducing to the last named Place a Number of Chinese. If you can be assisting herein your Select Committee is to take this Matter up in as private a Manner as possible lest it should be known in China (publicly at least) and the Project thereby defeated.

23. We have given directions to the President & Council at Fort St. George to forward in the most convenient manner whatever Consignments & Military Recruits are intended for your Presidency, & concert the necessary Measures with you for the disposition of the Ships which are to receive for Europe the Proportions of your respective Investments.

24. To prevent as much as lies in Our Power any danger of the three Ships bound to the West Coast and China losing their Passage to Canton, as well as for other Reasons, We have given the Commanders positive Orders not to call at Batavia. Not only the said three Ships are forbid but We extend Order to the Commanders of all Our Shipping this Season, of which We give you this Notice for your Guidance with respect to the Shipping under your Management.

25. We continue Our directions to the China Council to order two of their homeward bound Ships to call at the West Coast, and to carry such Stores thither as the President & Council of Fort Marlboro' shall indent for & can be conveniently laden on them, as also to afford them an Opportunity of sending to us their Advices & the necessary Dispatches.

26. As in the present Situation of Our Settlements upon the West Coast a Ship of some Burthen and Countenance may be of great Use, We have fixed upon Our own Ship the Admiral Watson for this Service, and the directions We have thereupon given to Our President and Council there, are that they keep her a Season or two if wanted after her Arrival, and the Commander is to follow all such Orders as they shall think proper to give him from time to time. That as to the manner of the said Ships being employed it is left to their discretion, depending upon their acting for the best, & in particular that they will use their best Endeavours that her Services may be adequate to the extraordinary Expence this Measure will occasion. Altho' as before observed the Employment of this ship is left to their discretion We have hinted to them that the procuring a Number of Chinese, as also Slaves from Madagascar or elsewhere, are Objects of great consequence to Our said Settlements. We make no doubt they will have them in their Thoughts, they are also directed to send her to our other Presidencies whenever it may [be] necessary for the better furnishing them with whatever they may stand in need of. If they think fit to send the Admiral Watson to Madagascar, it is necessary she should be furnished with a proper Cargo but as We are apprehensive it will not be in their Power to give her one, in such case they are to send her to any of Our Presidencies, where such Articles are to be laden as may be sufficient to purchase the Number of Slaves they purposed she should bring them.

27. When the time comes for the Admiral Watson being returned to Europe, which as before observed is recommended to be in a Season or two after her Arrival if wanted so long, she is to be sent from Fort Marlboro' to any of Our other Presidencies to be laden home, or to China agreeable to Circumstances at the time, taking care that she is dispatched in a proper Season.

28. Wherever the Admiral Watson shall be, she is to be victualled & put in the best Condition in every respect for proceeding from Port to Port, and for her Return to England at the Company's Expence & the proper Accounts are to be transmitted to us from every Settlement.

29. We have given in charge to the Commander to the Amount of Four Hundred Pounds in Foreign Silver to purchase Necessaries in the Course of the Voyage for which he is to be accountable on leaving India.

30. We have as usual paid two Months Wages by way of Impress to the Commander, Officers & the rest of the Ships Company, and we shall pay to their respective Attornies here one Month's Wages in Six until the Ship's Return to England. These being the customary Terms there will be no Occasion to advance any Money for Wages in India, even though she should stay one Season beyond that of her Arrival; but if she stays two Seasons extraordinary it may happen that the Crew may be clamorous for some Advance, in such cases (tho' not without an absolute necessity) some Money may be paid them on Account of their Wages, the Quantum to be settled between the President and Council at such Settlemt. where she shall be & the Commander, an exact Account of what is so paid to each Man is to be transmitted to us, that it may be properly accounted for here, upon the final Adjustment of the Wages.

31. The beforegoing being Our general Intentions and Instructions with respect to the Admiral Watson you are to conform thereto so far as you may have any Concerns with her, whatever other Informations may be necessary, you will be furnished therewith by Our President & Council of Fort Marlborough.

32. We find that upon the Resignation of Captain Reynolds at the West Coast, Capt. Thomas Hague of the Plassie was appointed to succeed him in the Command of the Prince Henry, and the Command of the Plassie given to Durell Clews the Chief Mate of the Prince Henry. We have acquainted Our President and Council there, if these are Men of Abilities & Character We confirm the Appointments, but it is to be observed as a Standing Ru[le], not only at Fort Marlboro' but at all Our Presidencies, That in future all Vacancies in the Command of any [of] the Company's own Ships or Vessels are to be filled up provisionally, and an impartial Account of the Abilities and Characters of the Persons so to be appointed, communicated to us that We may confirm them in the Command or otherwise, according to their Merit. Of this you are not to fail with respect to all Appointments at Our Presidency of Fort William.

33. Captn. Reynolds having resigned the Service as beforementioned, has consequently no right to reside in India, We shall therefore expect he returns to England agreeable to his Intimation to the President & Council at Fort Marlboro' by the way of Fort St. George or elsewhere, which you are to see is performed if he happened to be in Bengal.

34. Should John Smith late Chief Mate of the Earl Temple, who escaped from his Confinement when Mr. Ardley was upon the West Coast ever appear at your Presidency, he is to be sent to England, forthwith by the first Conveyance, as a Man of his infamous Character ought by no means to have the Benefit of the Company's Protection.

35. We are informed Capt. Roddam of the Godolphin refused to deliver in a Register of that Ship's Private Trade to you, & as it frequently happens that those Accounts are withheld from us, altho' it is well known that all un-register'd Goods are by the By-Laws and Charterparty Agreement to be forfeited to the Company, you are therefore in future to call upon every Commander before his departure from Bengal for Europe, to deliver in under his hand a full & true Account of all the Goods and Merchandize in Private Trade laden on his Ship as well belonging to himself, as the rest of the Ship's Company on the Penalty beforementioned, and the said Register is to be transmitted to us in the Packet.

36. As it must be of great Utility for every one of Our Presidencies to be informed not only of the Consignments to each separately, but also of Our Export in general to every Part of India & China, what follows therefore (without entering into a minute detail) is an Account of the most material Articles We send by the several Ships of this Season vizt.

For the Presidency of Fort St. George

981 Bales of Cloth, 150 Bales Long Ells, 4 Bales of Sundry Piece Goods, 100 Tons of Lead, 70 Tons Copper, 100 Tons Iron, 5 Tons Steel, 200 Whole & 400 half Barrels of Gunpowder, 10 Tons of Grain Tin in Caps & 125 Pipes of Madeira Wine.

The Bales go equal in proportions on the five Coast & China Ships, the Wine in like manner by the four Coast & Bay Ships, & the rest of the Articles partly in the Coast & China & partly in the Coast and Bay Ships.

For the Presidency of Fort William

1120 Bales of Cloth, 50 Bales Long Ells, 3 Bales containing sundry Piece Goods, 100 Tons Lead, 130 Tons Copper, 100 Tons Iron, 20 Tons Tin, Cordage 106 Tons, 125 Pipes of Madeira Wine & 500 Barrels Gunpowder.

All the said Articles go nearly in equal Proportions in the four Coast & Bay Ships.

For the Presidency of Bombay

For the Bombay Market—1766 Bales Cloth, 380 Bales Long Ells, 40 Bales Broad Long Ells, 8 Bales of Sundry Piece Goods, 100 Tons Lead, 250 Tons Copper, 100 Tons Iron, 10 Tons Steel, 65 Tons Tin, 50 Pipes Madeira Wine, 200 Barrels of Gunpowder.

For Bussorah Market—660 Bales Cloth, 300 Bales of Long Ells, containing 10 Pieces each.

For Scindy Market—40 Bales Cloth & 70 Bales Long [Ells].

All the said Articles go nearly in equal Proportions in the 6 Bombay Ships, Except the Wine which goes by the Anson & London.

For the Presidency of Fort Marlboro'

30 Chests of Treasure for Our Mercantile Service and 10 Chests for a Bank to assist Our Servants there by way of Loan to carry on their own Trade— 50 Tons Iron, 5 Tons Steel, 10 Tons Tin, 100 Casks Flour, 100 half Hhds. [Hogsheads] Beef & Pork vizt. 50 of each, 100 Barrels Gunpowder, 70 Tons Cordage, 37 Tons of Anchors, Grapnals, Shot and Ironmongers Ware of various Sorts, 15 Chaldron Coals, with some other Articles not material to be here specified.

All which are proportioned on the four Ships bound to Fort Marlboro'.

For Canton

596 Bales Cloth, 9 small Bales of Superfine Cloth, for the Emperor, 600 Bales Long Ells, 20 Bales of Camblets, 1100 Tons Lead, 5 Tons Grain Tin in Caps.

The five Coast & China Ships have 60 Tons Lead each for Canton, the rest of the Lead & the other Articles go in the other China Ships.

37. With respect to Stores and Necessaries of several kinds for each Presidency, & yours in particular, though not mentioned in the preceding Accounts, the Indents for them will be complied with in general, as far as shall be thought necessary, and the Tonage & other Circumstances will admit of.

38. For the Particulars of the Consignments for your Presidency We refer you to the several Invoices and Bills of Lading. With respect to what are designed for you by the Coast & China Ships, We have given directions to the President & Council at Fort St. George to forward them to you by the first Conveyances that may offer.

39. Our Agents at the Island Madeira will transmit to you Invoices & Bills of Lading of the Wine for your Presidency, and you are to transmit to us a particular Account how it turns out as to quality & [.].

40. Notwithstanding the Representations in your Letter of the 30th October 1762 that Copper bore a very low price with you & the Consumption of it was equally at a Stand in other Parts of India, your Indent for this Article this Season exceeds that of last Year by 80 Tons, which confirms the Remarks We made last Season upon the little Attention which is paid to fram [ing?] your Indents in general & the Necessity of their being made in the manner then mention'd.

41. In the Import Warehouse Account of Rem[ains] the Total quantity of Copper in Store is specified, where it is necessary the Amount of each Sort should be particula[rly] set down, and must be so done in future.

42. The 20 Tons of Tin mentioned in the beforegoing Account of Our Exports for Bengal are sent in hopes of that this Commodity will find a Vend in your Part of India; you are therefore to send us a particular Account of the Sales thereof, with such Observations as may be necessary for Our Information

43. Your Indent for Brass & Iron Guns & Ordnance Stores is so great, that it is a further Confirma[ti]on of Our beforementioned Remarks of last Season upon Inattention in framing your Indents. We can therefore by no means think of complying with it fully more especially when We consider what large quanti[ties] have been taken from the French in the different Part[s] of India. And as We have never been acquainted in what manner the Stores so taken in or brought to Bengal have been applied, you are to send us a particular Account thereof by the first Ships for Our Information.

44. As Mr. Campbell carried with him very large Quantities of Assay and Mint Utensils, We do not think it proper to send any more of those Articles till it can be determined upon his Arrival, what further Addition is really necessary.

45. One Hundred Barrels of Gunpowder are shipt on the Northumberland & the Duke of Gloucester carries about 13 Tons of Cordage, which being intended for Bengal the President & Council of Fort St. George are directed to forward them to you by the first proper Conveyance.

46. The Stores the Government send out this Season consist of about 128 Tons of Beef and pork, which go in the following manner consign'd to the proper Officers vizt. One half in equal Proportions on the five Coast and China Ships, and the other half in like manner on the Six Ships bound to Bombay. If any of the said Stores should be landed at your Presidency you are to take care to forward them to the Proper Officers wherever they may be.

47. We observe with Pleasure that you intended to remit a Supply of five Laacks to Fort St. George towards a Stock for Our China Ships of the last Season, & a like Sum to Bombay for the Assistance of that Presidency, and that you also expected so long as your Provinces remained in peace, to be able to continue like Supplies to Our [other] Presidencies and China. We shall therefore accordingly depend upon your utmost Care & Attention to an Object of so great consequence to Our Trade in general. You will observe by the foregoing Account of the Export We send out this Season but forty Chests of Treasure and that to Fort Marlborough only, on a dependance that you and Our President & Council at Fort St. George [will] be able to raise a sufficient Stock not only for the Expence and Investments of both but also to supply Our China Trade, and make the necessary Remittances to Bombay & Fort Marlboro'. With respect to Our China Trade, We make no doubt but agreeable to the Standing Order laid down [in] Our Letter of the 17th December 1762, you will have taken care to make such effectual and timely Remittances to Fort St. George, as will with the Assistance of that Presidency be fully sufficient to form a Stock to be sent to Canton for the Investment of the several Ships to be laden home from thence.

48. We confirm Our beforementioned Standing Order of the 17th December 1762 for the Annual Provision of Treasure and Goods for Our China Market, it must therefore be carefully observed until you receive Our directions to the contrary.

49. Our Presidency of Fort Marlboro' will besides what We send from hence stand in need of your continued Assistance, you will therefore agreeable to Our Orders last Year, supply or cause it to be supplied with every thing necessary for perfecting its Re-establishment. It is proper here to observe to you that only Thirty of the forty Chests of Treasure We send thither are to be applied for the Use of the Company, the other ten Chests being to form a Ba[nk] to assist Our Servants there in their present low Circumstances to trade with by way of Loan on a reasonable Consideration to the Company for the Money so to be lent.

50. We now send you the List of Investment for the ensuing Season, in which are the necessary directions and observations, to which therefore you are referr'd.

51. We shall depend upon your utmost Endeavours to provide as large a Quantity of Salt Petre as possible not only for promoting the dispatch of the Ships to be laden home from Bengal, but also to answer the Necessities of Our Presidencies of Fort St. George & Bombay, We have directed them to signify their demands to you as early as possible, which you are accordingly to comply with by the first Conveyances that offer.

52. It seems needless to observe that the Advantages resulting from the Company's Trade must appear by the Returns made to England. This Matter is so obvious that it would not have been mention'd had not that once valuable Branch of the English Commerce the Piece Goods brought from your Settlement, of late so dwindled, that We have not received half the Quantity ordered, nor have those receiv'd been of the Quantity formerly sent. Altho' We can see no reason why they should not be made as good as ever they have been, and what is still more surprizing at the time We appear to have been Masters almost of the whole Bengal Trade; the Dutch Importation has this Year exceeded Ours in the whole Quantity, and greatly in the finer Assortments of Goods; how this arises We don't pretend to determine but hope you will think it incumbent on you to exert your utmost Abilities in retrieving a Trade formerly the Staple of the Company, when Our Ships used always to bring home each about One Thousand six hundred Bales of Piece Goods & Raw Silk whereas now they seldom have more than Eight hundred and the rest of the Tonage is made up in Redwood and Salt Petre, Articles that at present make a very large [.] in the Lists of Tonage, but a very small one in their Produce at the Sales. We hope in future that you will not fail fully to comply with the Orders of the Investment and by that means lade the Ships with the Charterparty Quantities of Redwood & Salt petre, the former for Dun[n]age and the latter for Kintlage, & the rest of the Charterparty Tonnage must consist of Bale Goods, after which if any room is left in the Ships, as is generally the Case, you must fill them up with Bale Goods if possible, but if that cannot be done We shall then approve the sending a further Quantity of Salt Petre, as it will come at a low freight, and consequently turn out to a better Account.

We cannot help enforcing these Instructions in the strongest manner, which if duly attended to, will be an Advantage to the Nation in general, greatly promote the Trade of the Company, and be likewise beneficial to the Owners of Shipping by encreasing their Freights. The Opinion We entertain of your Zeal & Abilities for the Company's Service will We hope be a further Inducement to you to exert yourselves on this very important Occasion.

53. By what can be collected from Public & Private Intelligence with respect to the French East India Company it appears to be in a very low and languishing Condition, unable to carry on Trade, and imagined to be upon the point of being dissolved. If that takes place which We suppose most probable, it is thought the Scheme will be for private People to trade to the Isles of Bourbon & France & China, & possibly some few Ships may go to the other parts of India on condition of paying His Most Christian Majesty an Indulto¹, and that the French will renounce entirely the other Settlements, and Trade to Asia, for the present at least, as well for avoiding the Expences and Difficulties that would be met with, as for encouraging their own Manufactures. We do not give you this Information as a certainty, but upon the whole it may be inferr'd but very few Ships can proceed from France to the East Indies this Season, & that it will probably be long before the French Trade and Power can make a figure again in India.

54. The Dutch Commissaries left England in the Month of July last, in order to lay before their Company a State of the Proceedings between them & the Commissaries on Our part; and altho' none of the Points in dispute have been adjusted², they parted on good Terms & assured Our Commissaries that their leaving England was not to be looked upon as a Conclusion or breaking off of the Negotiation, but that they had Orders from their Constituents to return to Holland to give an Account thereof, and receive fresh Instructions. However We are very lately inform'd they have made their Report, & that in consequence thereof the said Company have (without any previous Notice which from the Assurance of the Commissaries We had reason to expect) laid the same before the States General in a Memorial wherein great Pains are taken (as may be well supposed from such chicaning Behaviour) to represent the Conduct of their Servants in the mo[st] favourable light and ours in quite the reverse. By th[is] Step We apprehend the Negotiation by Commissaries at an End for the present at least, & that the Dispute between the two Companies will be cognizable only to & taken up by Our respective Sovereigns. We are preparing a Memorial of the whole Affair to be laid before the King in which We make no doubt to give his Majesty Convincing Proofs of the Justice of Our Cause.

55. We informed you in Our Letter of the 13th May last, of the Apprehensions We were under of the Intention of the Dutch to send out an extraordinary Armament to the East Indies; We thereupon made Our Application to His Majesty's Ministers to desire that either a Stop might be put thro' His Majesty's Interposition to the said Armament or that a sufficient Naval Force might be left in or sent to India to protect us against any hostile Attempts

of the Dutch, if any such were intended, We are now to inform you that the Dutch Ambassador here by order of the States General did on the 24th September last signify to the Earl of Sandwich one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State that no more Men would be sent this year to the East Indies by the Dutch Company than were necessary to compleat the Corps they now had there, & that they had no design whatever, directly or indirectly to molest the English.

56. We have thought it necessary by this dispatch to give you the before-mentioned general Informations with respect to the Dutch, & to signify that notwithstanding [the] said Declaration of the Ambassador it will be highly pru[dent] and incumbent on you, and all Our Servants in India [to] have a careful Eye upon their Proceedings & be constantly on their guard to prevent any Attempts they may make to Our prejudice, & you will on your Parts take the necessary Care accordingly.

57. We have appointed Mr. Paul Benfield to be a Civil Architect & Assistant Engineer at Fort St. George. He is extreamly well recommended to us as having been regularly bred an Architect, Surveyor & Draughtsman & for his Knowledge in Fortification & other Branches of the Mathematicks, with these Qualifications, therefore We make no doubt of his doing us good Service. He is to have the Appointments of an Assistant Engineer & rank as a first Lieutenant, And is to be allowed to do any Private Business as a Civil Architect, provided it does not interfere with his Duty to the Company. We have desired the said Presidency to take the opinion of Mr. Call whether it may be of most use to the Company for Mr. Benfield to continue there, or to be employed in Bengal ; if the latter shall be thought right he is to proceed to your Presidency, where he is to be employed & rank as above-mentioned with respect to Fort St. George.

58. We have appointed the following named persons to be Writers upon the Bengal Establishment to rank in the Order here mentioned, vizt. John Sumner, Robert Wilmot, James Inglish Keighley, Henry Walter, Ewan Law, Edward Golding, Roger Barwell, William Rooke, Thomas Legh, Edward Fenwick, William Marriott, William Lushington & Thomas Ridley, and they proceed accordingly on the Ships of this Season.

59. The Lists of all such Persons as have Our leave for proceeding to India as Free Merchants, in the Seafaring way or otherwise, will be sent in the Packets as usual.

60. We have given leave for Mr. Thomas Davis and Mr. George Mainwaring Kenderdine to proceed to any of Our Settlements in India where they may be wanted as Surgeons, as they are well recommended to us for their Skill in their Profession they are to succeed upon any Vacancy at your Presidency, if found deserving, in case of their coming to Bengal.

61. As by the Resignation of Mr. Amphlett you are in want of a Principal Engineer, We have appointed Capt. Fleming Martin to serve us in that

Capacity under your Presidency. He has been very well recommended to us for his Knowledge & Experience in that Branch by His Majesty['s] Officers under whom he served during the late War, but as he will proceed upon the latter Ships, We shall defer giving you further information relating to him till that Conveyance.

62. The Number of Recruits sent to Our several Presidencies last Season amounted to about Twelve Hundred Men, of which near Four Hundred were for your Presidency & Fort St. George. Being thoroughly sensible of the necessity of keeping up a respectable Force at every Settlement particularly the two last named, & attentive to the several Representation[s] We have received on this occasion, We likewise send out this Season as many as Our Shipping can conveniently carry Vizt. On the five Coast & China and four Coast and Bay Ships Eight Hundred & eighty Men and on the [six?] Bombay Ships Six Hundred being One Hundred on each except the Caernarvon which carries but Eighty. The [three?] Ships bound to Fort Marlboro' carry about Two Hundred and thirty Men, the Amount of the whole being about Seventeen hundred Men. Those designed for your Presidency and Fort St. George will appear by the Muster Rolls in the respective Ships Packets. It is Our Intention to recruit in like manner Our Military Forces next Season, because We are not willing to place too great a Confidence in having a large Recruit from the Corps in His Majesty's Service upon their being recalled, yet we make no doubt your Endeavours in consequence of Our directions last Season on this point, will meet with good Success.

63. As We take the Advantage of every Conveyance for sending as many Recruits to India as possible you will observe from the preceding Paragraph that those sent last Season with what are to proceed on the Bombay Ships of this, make together about Fourteen Hundred Men, it is not Our Intention they should be all continued at that Presidency, but that as many of them as can possibly be spared should be sent to your Presidency & to Fort St. George, and We give orders to the President and Council of Bombay accordingly, and We shall depend upon it that you will not be wanting on your part to make the most pressing Applications for having a sufficient Number brought round by all proper Conveyances. We give the like notice to Our Presidency at Fort St. George.

64. The Names of the Cadets who are to serve in Our Troops will be sent in separate Lists in the several Ships Packets sign'd by Our Secretary, who are to be preferr'd if they behave well in the Order they are therein named.

65. Having taken into Our most serious Consideration the present Situation of Affairs at Bengal, the necessity of keeping up a respectable Military Force, and at [the] same time the manner of doing it in the most useful [&] effectual way consistently with confining the Military Expences within as reasonable Bounds as Circumstances will admit of, We have therefore agreed & fixed upon the following Plan as an Establishment for Our Presidency of Bengal, vizt.

The whole Force to consist of 2600 European and 4000 Seapoys making together Six thousand six hundred Men Officers included.

The Europeans to be formed into Corps of Infantry, Cavalry & Artillery.

The Infantry is to consist of three Battalions of seven hundred Men each, or Two thousand one hundred Men to [be] distinguished by the Names of the 1st, 2d & 3rd Battalions.

Each Battallion to have Seven Companies; the first Company to consist of the Major as Captain one Lieutenant who is to be Captain Lieutenant, one Ensign—Subalterns as many as are necessary, the Remainder to be the Private Men so as to make the Company One Hundred Men in all Officers included.

The other Six Companies of each Battalion to consist each of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign—Subalterns & Private Men as the first Company.

The Cavalry to consist of two Companies, each of which to have its Captain, two Lieutenants, Two Cornets, as many Subalterns as are necessary; the Remainder to be private Men so as to make each Company One Hundred Men in all Officers included.

The Artillery to consist of three Companies [each] of which to have its Captain, two Lieutenants, [two] Lieutenant Fire Workers, as many Subalterns as are necessary; the Remainder to be private Men so as to make each Company One Hundred Men in all Officers included.

The Seapoys are to be formed into four Battalions of one thousand Men in each all Officers included to be distinguished by the Names of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Battalions.

Each Battalion to be commanded by one Captain, One Lieutenant and one Ensign who are to be Europeans, and such a Number of Indian Officers as shall be necessary.

The Military Force upon the beforegoing Plan will We hope be fully sufficient to answer every good purpose, it is therefore forthwith to be carried into execution as nearly as possible & as Circumstances will admit of. If any deviations therefrom shall be found really necessary you will give us your Reasons very fully that We may be satisfied no Alteration is made that can possibly be avoided. The pay is to be continued upon the present Establishment, & you are to observe, that the Majors are to receive Fifteen Shillings a day which includes both the Pay of Major & Captain.

66. The Number of Recruits We send out this Season for your Presidency & that of Fort St. George together with those you will receive from Bombay in consequence of what is mentioned in a preceding Part of this Letter We would have divided as nearly upon an Equality between the two Presidencies as can be conveniently done, & the President & Council

at Fort St. George have directions to forward the proportion to you accordingly, as We have put the Military System at that Presidency exactly upon the same Plan as yours.

67. We have appointed Captains Robert Fletcher, [.....] Woodward & John Graham to be Captains upon your Establishment, & they proceed accordingly on the Ships this Season.

68. As the Military Recruits you will receive according to the before-going Information will form the greatest part of a Battalion it is upon that Account We send out the said three Gentlemen as Captains who are to be appointed to that Corps accordingly unless you shall with the Advice of General Caillaud Judge it may be more for the good of the Service to fix them in one of the other Battalions.

69. Should you want more Officers in the Rank of Captains, you will take the Opinion of General Caillaud & promote such persons who are already in Our Service having a strict regard to their Rank, Abilities & Character.

70. If on the other hand it shall happen that you have more Companies & consequently Captains than are wanting according to Our beforegoing Regulations, in such case upon the Death or otherwise of any of them such Company is to drop and the remaining Officers & Men are to be incorporated in the other Corps.

71. John Carnac Esqr. Our present Major at your Presidency is to be the Major of the first Battalion, [and] the Captains Peter Carstairs and Randfurlie Knox are to be the other two Majors, the first named of whom is as such to command the Second Battalion & the other the [third].

72. Capt. Robert Fletcher one of the Gentlemen We have as before-mentioned appointed a Captain has greatly distinguished himself as an Officer in Our Troops upon the Fort St. George Establishment and particularly upon the taking of Manilha, We have thought proper to give him a Brevet to take Rank as Major & as such he is to have the Provisional Command & Care of the Recruits now going out to form a Battalion at your Presidency until their Arrival in Bengal.

73. If upon Capt. Fletcher's Arrival in Bengal either Major Carnac, Major Carstairs or Major Knox shall be dead or come away or whenever a Vacancy happens by the Death or otherwise of any of those Gentlemen then Capt. Fletcher is to succeed to a Majority & rank next below the Survivors of them, from which time he is to have the Pay of Major, it being Our meaning that until he so succeeds he is to receive Pay as Captain only from the time of his Arrival.

74. Having considered with the greatest Attention every circumstance of your Proceedings with respect to the Allegation against Coll. Caillaud for consenting to a proposal of the late Nabob Jaffir Ally Khan to cause the

Shawzadah to be seized or cut off, We are unanimously of Opinion that he stands honourably acquitted of any Design or Intention upon or against the Life of that Prince.

75. Being satisfied of the great Utility of having an Officer of Character & Rank to command all Our Military Forces in the East Indies next below Major General Lawrence, & to succeed to the Chief Command in case of a vacancy by the Decease or coming away of that Gentleman, We have fixed upon John Caillaud Esqr. for these purposes as likewise to command Our Forces upon the Bengal Establishment. As this Gentleman is so well known for his Abilities, good Conduct & long and faithful Services, We think Ourselves happy in engaging him again, & in order to give him more Weight, His Majesty from a Sense of his many gallant Services has been most graciously pleased to grant him a Commission of Brigadier General in the East Indies.

Upon Brigadier Genl. Caillaud's Arrival therefore in the East Indies We do hereby order & direct,

That he is to be the Commander of all the Company's Forces at their several Presidencies in the East Indies next in Rank to Major General Lawrence.

That he be employed in the said Station wherever & whenever his Presence shall be necessary & wanted for the Company's Service.

That he is forthwith to proceed to the Presidency at Fort William in Bengal where he is to have the Command of all the Company's Forces at that Presidency.

That in case of the Decease or coming away of Major General Lawrence then the said Brigadier General Caillaud is to succeed as Commander-in-Chief of all the Company's Forces at the several Presidencies in the East Indies in as full & ample manner & with the same Power & Authority as General Lawrence now enjoys the same.

That however in either Station of Second or Chief in Command he is to be subject to the Orders and Directions of the Governour & Council of each Presidency where he shall happen to be during the whole time of his Continuance in the Company's Service.

That on account of his long Experience in and general Knowledge of the Company's Affairs he is to have a constant Seat & Voice at the Council Board and at all Committees at Fort William, or at any other of the Company's Presidencies wherever he shall happen to be.

That his Seat at such Council Board or Committees is to be next below the Governour except when General Lawrence shall happen to be present who is then to be next the Governour, & Genl. Caillaud is to take Rank next below General Lawrence.

That altho' Genl. Caillaud is to have a Seat in the Council Board or Committees in the manner beforementioned it is meant that he is not to succeed to the Government at any of the Company's Presidencies on any account or pretence whatsoever as upon any Vacancy in the Government the same is to be filled up by & confined to one of Our Civil Servants according to the Custom of the Company which is to be the next in standing below Genl. Caillaud, unless We have given or shall give any Orders to the contrary.

That Genl. Caillaud as Second in Command of all the Company's Forces in India, & Chief Commander in Bengal as beforementioned be allowed a Salary of Five Hundred pounds a Year to commence upon his Arrival in Bengal.

That in consideration of his many eminent past Services & the Rank he bears in His Majesty's Service he be allowed the further Sum of Five Hundred pounds a year by way of Gratuity.

That in case of his succeeding to the Chief Command on the decease or coming away of Genl. Lawrence as beforementioned he is then to have the same Allowance [as] that Gentleman vizt. Fifteen Hundred pounds a Year Seven hundred & fifty whereof is considered as Salary and the other Seven hundred and fifty as a Gratuity for his extraordinary past Services, which last therefore is to be continued to Genl. Caillaud for the like reason.

And here We think proper to draw a Line and to declare it is Our Will & Pleasure that no future Chief in Command shall have a larger Appointment than seven Hundred & fifty Pounds a Year in full for Salary and Gratuity, or a Second than Five hundred pounds a Year.

We further order & direct that Genl. Caillaud's Travelling Expences & Expences in the Field be borne by the Company in which all the Frugality is recommended that is consistent with the Service.

That he be provided with an House or Apartment in Bengal suitable to his Rank if he had one before, and at Fort St. George be put upon the like footing in this respect as Genl. Lawrence.

You are to take Notice that the beforementioned Allowances are to be in full consideration for all the said Genl. Caillaud's Services as well Civil as Military.

76. We last Season appointed Mr. Isaac Tullie an Ensign upon your Establishment We now think proper to give him the Option of being a Lieutenant upon the Fort St. George Establishment, if therefore he should proceed thi[ther] he is to succeed as a Lieutenant upon the first Vacancy that shall happen after his Arrival, & you are to give [him] notice of the same.

77. Mr. Benjamin Wroe who has been some time an Officer in one of His Majesty's Troops of Light Horse proceeds to Bengal in one of the Ships

of this Season as a Cadet to be preferr'd in the Corps of Horse upon your Establishment when a Vacancy happens, you are therefore to promote him accordingly upon the first Vacancy therein after his Arrival.

78. Besides the Writers already named for your Presidency We have thought proper to appoint William Maxwell who is to be stationed the last upon the List of those appointed this Season vizt. the next below Thomas Ridley; he takes his Passage from the Island Madeira on one of the Ships which are to call there.

79. Since writing the foregoing We have taken into Our consideration the most effectual & speedy Method for supplying Our Settlements upon the West Coast with Slaves & We have thereupon fixed upon two Ships for that purpose vizt. the Fort William Capt. Edward Roach and the Success Capt. David Crichton let for 350 Tons each to proceed from hence to Madagascar to purchase as many as can be procured & the said Ships conveniently carry who are to be delivered by the Captains of those Ships to Our Agents at Fort Marlboro' at the Rate of £15 a Head for so many as shall appear to be on board at the time of their departure from Madagascar. It is purposed that they shall be dispatched from Madagascar the 30th of November at furthest, We give you this notice by way of general Information only as We shall acquaint you with Particulars by a future Conveyance. You will observe that if this Voyage proves successful there will be no occasion for sending the Admiral Watson to Madagascar.

80. As upon the Arrival of the said Slaves at Fort Marlboro' there will be wanting an Additional Stock [of] Provisions you will therefore take care that as Conveyances offer the necessary Supplies are sent thither as likewise of what Piece Goods may be proper for their Cloathing.

81. Altho' We have not received any Letter from You since that which bore date the 14th Feby. 1763 which gave us some general Account of very disagreeable Altercations with the Nabob, yet Private Advices have been received which take Notice that the Nabob having made repeated Complaints of the notorious Abuse of Dusticks by which he lost great part of his Customs, and having obtained no Redress he at once overset the Company's Servants by declaring all Goods Custom free so that their Dusticks are of no Use. Unwilling as We always [are] to place too much Confidence in private Informations, these are too important to pass unnoticed, If what is all[eged?]'s fact it is natural to think that the Nabob tired out disgusted with the Ill Usage he has received has taken extraordinary Measure, finding that his Authority and Government are set at nought & trampled upon by unprecedented Behaviour of Our Servants & the Age[nts] employed by them in the several Parts of the Nabob's Dominions. If We are right in Our Conjecture We positively direct as you value Our Service that you do immediately acquaint the Nabob in the Company's Name that We disapprove of every Measure which has been [taken] in real prejudice to his Authority & Government particu[lalry] with respect to the wronging him in his Revenues by shameful Abuse of Dusticks, & you

are further to inform him that We look upon his & the Company's Interest to be so connected that We wish for nothing more than to have every thing put on such a footing that the utmost harmony may be promoted & kept up between us.

82. In order to promote this Harmony you are most heartily & seriously to take under your Consideration every real Grievance the Nabob lays under, to redress them to the utmost of your Power & prevent such Abuses in future, & with respect to the Article of Dusticks in particular you are hereby positively directed to confine this Privilege as nearly as possible to the Terms granted in the Phirmaunds, and you are to give the Nabob all the Assistance you can to re-instate him in the full power of collecting and receiving his Revenues which as Subah he is justly entitled to.

83. We are impatient for your next Advices that We may be informed of your Proceedings with respect to this important Affair, & that We may give you Our Sentiments thereupon in a more full & explicit manner which We hope will be before the dispatch of Our last Letters this Season.

84. In Our Letter of the 17th December 1762 We acquainted you We had restored Mr. Charles Stafford Playdell to the Company's Service in the Rank & Station he stood at the time of his dismissal that is to say in Council next below Mr. Mc. Gwire, but as Mr. Playdell was upon his Voyage to England before Our Said Lre. reach'd Bengal, he returns to his said Station upon one of the Ships of this Season & upon his Arrival he is to take his Seat at the Board agreeable to Our beforementioned directions.

85. It is with real pleasure We have received from Our President & Council at Fort St. George an Account of the Gallant defence of Capt. Thos. Howe of the Winchelsea in an Engagement with two French Ships of War in Janr'y last off Hughley River; his Behaviour on this occasion having fully shewn how worthy he is of the good Opinion We have always entertained of him, the Court of Directors have unanimously resolved that their Thanks be given to Captn. Howe for his said Gallant Behaviour of which you are to inform him if he shall happen to be at your Presidency, or any where within reach of a Letter.

86. Mr. Thomas Bunce proceeds upon one of the ships of this Season bound to your Presidency in order to be an Ensign in Our Troops upon the Bengal Establishment, you are therefore upon his Arrival to give him a Commission as such upon the first Vacancy in any of the Corps, in the mean time until such Vacancy happens he is to receive Pay and Rank & do Duty as an Ensign wherever you shall think proper to employ him.

87. We hereby order and direct that your Select Committee be composed of the following Persons Vizt.

Henry Van Sittart Esqr. President or the President for the time being
Brigadier General John Caillaud

Peter Amyatt Esqr.
 Mr. John Spencer
 Mr. William MacGwire
 Mr. Warren Hastings

And Whenever by Death or otherwise the said Committee is reduced under the Number of Six, the Vacancies are to be filled up by the remaining Members of the said Committee with such Person or Persons as they shall think fit.

We are

Your Loving Friends

London

30th Decemr. 1763.

Recd & { in Cons. the 26 July }
 Read { 1764 Pub Dept. } Burrow/Hen. Hadley/Timothy Tullie/Charles Chambers.

John Dorrien/Lau. Sullivan/Chas. Cutts/J.
 Purling/Wm. Snell/Richd. Warner /Fredk.
 Pigou/Wm. Webber/ G. Rooke / John
 Harrison/John Manship/John Browne/
 Hy. Crabb Boulton/Christr. Baron/Robt.
 Burrow/Hen. Hadley/Timothy Tullie/Charles
 Chambers.

LETTERS TO COURT

LETTER DATED 1 JANUARY 1760

Mons. Moracin manages to sail for Pondicherry.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors

Since writing the enclos'd of the 29th Ulto. We have the pleasure to advise you that the Ajax and Houghton are safely arrived and by advices rec'd from Mr. Rogers our Resident at Cuttack we learn that Monsieur Moracin with the French Party which has for some time past been at Gangam in a most distress'd condition¹ has found means to Embark on two Vessells and We presume are sailed for Pondicherry from whence We conclude Capt. Fischer² with the Detachment under his Command are not far from Ganjam. We hope therefore in our next address to acquaint you of their near approach to Bengall.

Fort William
Janry 1st, 1760.
[Per Calcutta & Hardwicke]
[Overland Via Bussorah]

May it please your Honors
&ca.

LETTER DATED 21 JANUARY 1760

Shipping news.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors

Agreeable to what we wrote you in our Address of the 29th Ulto. We now send the Denham Capt. Tryon to Fort Marlborough in order to be fill'd up with Pepper and finally to be dispatch'd from thence to your Honors. We have Laden on her Two thousand Five hundred bags of Saltpetre amounting as Pr Invoice and Bill of Lading enclos'd to CRs. 23,870—exclusive of sundry Stores Consign'd the Deputy Governour and Council of that Settlement conformable to the Indents received from thence amounting to CRs. 12,684-5-6 and the usual stores for the Island of St. Helena.

Your Ships the Calcutta & Hardwick were Dispatch'd to you from Kedgerree the 7th Instant with full Cargoes and We hope the Royal George will follow them some time in this Month and the Duke of Dorset some time in Febry. each with full Loadings. The Stormont is now under Dispatch for Bombay with 3,000 Bags of Saltpetre and the Houghton will shortly follow her with near the same quantity, The Oxford will sail for Madrass in a very few days to be dispatch'd from thence and the Ajax to Bencoolen to take in the remainder of the Pepper.

We have the pleasure to acquaint you that by advices receiv'd overland a few days since from Bombay We learn that the Godolphin, Harcourt, Griffin and Clinton were safely arriv'd there.

Fort William
Janry. 21st 1760.
[Per The *Denham* Via Bencoolen]

We are,
May it please your Honors
&ca.

3

LETTER DATED 24 JANUARY 1760

Treasure and rice for Fort St. George.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors

Enclos'd you will receive Duplicate of our Address Pr Denham under date the 21st Instant Agreeable to which We now send the Oxford to Madrass to be fill'd up and finally Dispatch'd to your Honors having Laden on her Sundry Goods consign'd to you amounting as P Invoice and Bill of Lading to CRs. [.....].

On this Ship we likewise send Twenty Chests of Treasure & [.....] Bags of Rice for the use of the Presidency of Fort St. George and sundry Stores for the Island of St. Helena.

We heartily wish her a safe and speedy Passage, being with great respect

Fort William
Janry. 24th 1760.
[Per The *Oxford* Via Madrass]

May it please your Honors
& ca.

LETTER DATED 3 FEBRUARY 1760

Shipping news—gunpowder works not to be shifted from Perrin's Garden—Clive's intention of quitting the Government—reasons for deporting Frenchmen from Chandernagore to Pondicherry—monopoly over saltpetre at Patna—Company's servants forbidden to hold lands—bills of exchange—Coote's victory at Wandiwash—present from Mir Jafar.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors

[1.] Having wrote you under the Establish'd heads by the Calcutta and sent Duplicate thereof by the Hardwick We now enclose Triplicate of the same and shall proceed to give you an account of our transactions since the departure of those Ships and reply more fully to such parts of your Commands of 23d. March as were then omitted or but slightly touched on in the above mention'd Address.

2. By the report of our Master Attendant We learn that the Calcutta and Hardwick were dispatch'd by him from Kedjeree the 7th Ulto.—The Denham Sail'd for Bencoolen the 29th Ulto.—As did the Oxford for Madrass the [.....] instant in order to be fill'd up and finally dispatch'd to your Honors.

3. The Duke of Dorset having suffer'd so much in the late Action with the Dutch that she could not be properly Repair'd in time to proceed to Bombay We came to a resolution of stationing the Stormont to that Presidency in her stead and determin'd that she should proceed directly to Europe with the remainder of the Investments—The Stormont accordingly Sail'd for Bombay the [...] Instant with 3,000 Baggs of Salt Petre and some Grain and will shortly be follow'd by the Houghton with 2,000 Baggs of Petre and a further supply of Grain—The Ajax will proceed for Bencoolen in a few days with 3,000 Baggs of Salt Petre in order to be fill'd up with Pepper and dispatch'd from hence to your Honors.

4. The Board taking into consideration the Master Attendant's Report of the Conduct of John Cheworth the Pylot of the Stretham when she ran ashore and it appearing that he was unpardonably culpable We determin'd to dismiss him the Company's Service and that he should proceed to Europe in one of the Ships now under dispatch, if his present ill state of health does not prevent him.

5. The Company having a considerable Ballance in their hands due to the European Sufferers by the Capture of Calcutta in June 1756 We agreed to advance them 12½ Pr Cent in part of the Interest due on their establish'd

Claims but have order'd that no demands exceeding Two thousand Rupees shall be paid in ready money but in Interest Bonds or Bills of Exchange the former not to bear Interest till the 15th Instant.

6. We have before advis'd you of our intentions of removing the Powder Works from Perrin's Gardens¹ to a spot belonging to Petumberseat and had accordingly given the necessary Orders for its being carried into Execution—but Mr. Martin Costelly who has for some time past been employ'd in making the Powder having the 28th Ult^o. laid before us a List of several new Buildings which would be necessary for carrying on this business by which it appears that changing the spot would be attended with immense Expence and We finding likewise from the Report of the Engineer and Officer of Artillery enter'd after that days Consultation that the Powder does not turn out according to our expectations We came to a resolution to put an immediate stop to the new Buildings and directed Mr. Costelly to continue the making the Powder at Perrin's Garden—and at the same time determin'd to use every precaution in our power for the security of it there.

7. Immediately after the dispatch of the Calcutta and Hardwicke Colonel Clive set out for Muxadabad in order to take his leave of the Nabob and on his return laid before us a Letter of the 23rd Ultimo enter'd after that days Consultation signifying his intention of quitting the Government and proceeding to Europe on the Royal George—our reply to which will appear in our proceedings of the 28th Ultimo.

8. The Memorial of Facts with respect to our disputes with the Dutch referr'd to [in] our Letter of 29th December not being finish'd in time to be sent by the Calcutta We now enclose it and beg leave to be referr'd to that and to Colonel Clive for Authentick Vouchers of those Facts.

9. We shall pay due regard to your caution of not freighting Salt Petre on private Ships and in future studiously avoid putting you to that Expence when there is not the most urgent necessity for it.

10. Your Orders respecting the adjusting the Accounts of damage and short delivery with the Commanders of your Ships by valuing the Rupee at the Current Exchange allow'd the Companys Covenanted Servants shall in future be strictly obey'd.

11. On the best information We have been able to acquire with respect to Capt. Meard's demand on the behalf of his Owners We are induced to believe his claim is just as no allowance has been made him here on that Account.

12. We shall in future pay a due regard to the 22d. Paragraph of your Letter of 23d. March 1759 with respect to the Gratuities to be given the Seamen on any immergency[*sic*] but hope We shall not incur your displeasure by having rewarded the Seamen & Petty Officers of the Calcutta Duke of Dorset and Hardwick for their gallant behaviour in the late Action against the Dutch as the very being of the Settlement in a great measure depended on the spirit shewn by them on that occasion.

13. Altho' the then Governour & Council may be accus'd of want of Attention to the Company's Interest in sending the Directore Council & Inhabitants of Chandernagore away at so large an Expence We could never have conceiv'd the design itself would have been Deem'd impolitica We know not in what Lights this Affair may have been represented at home but to Us your Governour and Council as well as to every Inhabitant of Calcutta it appears that if so considerable a Body of [the] French had been suffer'd to remain in Bengall it might have given encouragement to a much more dangerous attempt than that lately made by the Dutch in short while there are any French left to inspire sentiments of their strength and Abilities to introduce an Arm'd force to recover their former Possessions in these Provinces our Interest and Influence must be diminish'd in the Eyes of the Government and We apprehend by sending them to Pondicherry they cannot so well circulate any of these Reports so very injurious to the Affairs of the East India Company. We might further add that if the French were really in a condition to make an attempt upon Bengall nothing could be more likely to insure Success than the intelligence and assistance underhand of so many of their Countrymen upon the spot and We may venture to assure your Honors the Expedition under Admiral Watson and Colonel Clive would have infallibly miscarried but for the Assistance receiv'd from the small Colony at Fultah^a. We cannot however take upon us to defend the terms of the Contract for the Ship Restitution but in compliance with your Orders are to inform you the Owners were Messrs. Roger Drake and John Durand—We beg leave to assure you that in future all material Contracts of this nature shall be discuss'd before the Board and the tenor of the 23d Paragraph of your Commands on this subject fully complied with.

14. Our endeavours have been fruitless in obtaining such satisfactory information as you require with respect to the Cargoe provided here for the Portugeese Ship call'd the Neustna Senhora Dos Prazeres but the Goods were in general purchas'd at such very high prices that your Agents here would by no means have been justified had they bought them on Account the Company.

15. The large Investments sent you last Season and what you will receive by the Ships of this Season will We hope manifest our unwearied endeavours to comply with your recommendation in the 37th Paragraph of your Orders receiv'd this Year. We doubt not being able to dispatch the Duke of Dorset directly for Europe with a full Cargoe by the 25th Instant at furthest and as We have reason to expect the Godolphin from Bombay in May or June We purpose if possible sending her directly to you with a full Loading in July or August deeming it hazardous in the present unsettled state of Affairs to keep any surplus quantity of Goods on hand when We have any possible and eligible means of embarking them for Europe.

16. Part of the Raw Silk provided by Mr. Watts at Radnagur is now forwarded to you on this Ship. On its being inspected in the Warehouse it

turn'd out very good but so high priced that We are determin'd to suspend purchasing any more of that sortment till We receive your further Orders on the Subject. On this occasion We cannot avoid doing Mr. Watts the justice to observe that the Silk provided by him is greatly superior to that purchas'd by the Gomastahs at that Aurung.

17. You were last Year advis'd of the exclusive Purwannah We had obtain'd for the purchase of Salt Petre at Patna and the prospect of the great advantages that were to be expected from thence and the re-establishment of that Factory. We doubt not the permanency of those advantages to the Company unless that Country should continue to be the Seat of War as it is now and was last Year by the Invasion of the Shawzadah.

18. As We before intimated in the 62d Paragraph of our Address by the Calcutta your Commands with respect to the Sale of the Lands shall be obeyed but after the most mature consideration think it our Duty to represent to you that as the positive prohibition you have laid your Covenant Servants under will amount also to a Prohibition of their being Bidders at the Sale of the Purgunnahs We cannot help being of Opinion that it will be the cause of a confederacy amongst the black Bidders at the next Sale of the Purgunnahs and thereby greatly reduce the value of them when they are resold at the expiration of the present term as you will have full time to give your ultimate Orders on this subject before that period will elapse We request you will take this your Prohibition into your further consideration.

19. A Resident at Cuttack has hitherto been necessary for the Communication of intelligence from the Party in the Deccan but as We see no advantages that will arise from his continuing there after our Party leaves that Country We purpose ordering him to return to Calcutta.

20. To what We have said on the subject of the 5 Pr Cent Commission suppos'd to be given the Commissioners of Restitution³ We must add that they have neither received that nor any other pecuniary consideration whatever.

21. We had in consequence of your Commands of the 3d. March 1758 and long before the receipt of your Orders of 23d. March 1759 desisted from our Scheme of Erecting a Fortification at Byrampore. The Materials which were provided for that purpose have since been sent down and made use of in the new Citadel.

22. It has been signified to the Servants mention'd in the List enclos'd in your Packet Pr Prince Henry that they must write to their friends to enter into fresh Securities for them agreeable to their several ranks which they have accordingly done by these ships.

23. In our Address under date the 29th December you were advis'd We had appointed a Committee to examine into the Claims on the Company on account the Debt at Interest in June 1756 which Statement was accordingly laid before us the 15th Ultimo and is enter'd after that days

Consultation In consequence of which We order'd publication to be made that every One who had any demand on the Company for Bonds lost at the Capture should send into us the particulars of their Claims—a List of which demands shall be transmitted you by the Duke of Dorsett with our remarks thereon.

24. Taking the 93d. Paragraph with respect to Deepchund's Deposit into consideration on the 31st Ultimo We agreed to lay the demand before the Commissioners of Restitution which has been done accordingly and shall transmit you their determination thereon as soon as We receive it. We are sensible this should have been done sooner but a variety of business together with the troubles with the Dutch which have lately intervened has put it out of our power.

25. The business of the Companys Servants being greatly multiplied the Zemidarry &ca. being branch'd into so many parts We take the liberty to recommend it to you to encrease the number of your Covenanted Servants on this Establishment.

26. The several Books and Papers sent us last Year and this [*sic*] have prov'd highly servicable in regulating the General Books but We must observe they must still remain incomplete for want of Copies of the Invoices of Goods sent out of Europe Anno 1755.

27. Your sentiments of Mr. Douglas his Conduct [*sic*] with respect to the Payment of the Companys Bond to him has been communicated to him and he will accordingly proceed to Europe on the Ajax.

28. By the detention of Colonel Coote at Madrass We have no possibility of putting in execution your Orders from the 101st to the 106th Paragraphs of your Letter Pr Prince Henry relative to the standing Garrison and Troops of this Presidency but We must inform you that if that Gentleman should come down here with his Regiment whilst Affairs remain in the present unsettled state We cannot help thinking it would be directly opposite to the true Interest of the Company to reduce the Garrison. We must beg leave to remark that neither the Troops by this Appointment nor the Artillery or Military Stores in general We are in possession of will be adequate to the defence of our extensive Fortifications for the latter Articles We must refer to Capt. Brohier's Indents, and as to the former We are the more solicitous from being convinced by the Subah's late conduct during our disputes with the Dutch⁴ that no further faith or confidence is to be placed in this Government but what a respectable force can exact from them.

29. As soon as Capt. Fischer returns with his party We shall as much as in our power reduce the heavy charge of the Seapoys by discharging as many as the service will admit of—and as the conveyances by Sea have miscarried and We have thereby been disappointed of receiving the Accounts of that Expedition We must defer transmitting them to you 'till Mr. Johnstone arrives which we hope will be before the departure of the Duke of Dorset.

30. In consequence of your orders regular Muster Rolls of every Company on this Establishment are now enclos'd for your information.

31. For your further satisfaction with respect to the enquiry into the Affair of Kissendass^b We beg leave to refer you to Colonel Clive's Letter to this Board under date the 23d. Ultimo and the solemn Attestation of Kissendass on that subject enter'd after that days proceedings.

32. Capt. Brook Samson of the Hardwick having behav'd much to our satisfaction on the Expedition to Ganjam and since his return into the River We take the liberty to recommend him to your Honor's notice and favor.

33. By the Calcutta and Hardwick We drew sundry Setts of Bills of Exchange on your Honors before the receipt of your late Orders on this subject at 2s-3d Pr. Current Rupee amounting to CRs. 6,89,567-10 or £Strg. 77,596-19 $\frac{1}{2}$ and afterwards several Setts more at 2s-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d Pr. Current Rupee Amounting to CRs. or £Strg [. . .] but as it is probable the Royal George may arrive with you before those Ships We have omitted inserting the particulars of the Bills drawn by them in the Triplicate letter now sent lest you might be distress'd by not having the Cargoes of those Ships to answer so large a demand as would be made on you on this Account. We have by this Ship drawn on you the following Setts of Bills payable at 2s-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d Pr. Current Rupee three hundred and Sixty five days after sight free of Interest amounting to CRs. [.] or £Stg. [.]

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to Richard Becher Esqr. Account the Estate of Mr. John Bonjonier Deceas'd payable to Mrs. Catherina Johanna Bonjonier for	1,734-3-9	198-14-3
One Do. to Mr. John Donnellon payable to Anthony Mallone Esqr. for	2,534-15-6	290- 9-3
One Do. to Doctor George Gray payable to Messrs. George Gray Robert Gray and Thomas Mylne or either of their Orders for	15,000-0-0	1,718-15-0
One Do. to Mr. Richard Dean payable to Mr. William Dean for	872-11-9	100-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Joseph Gething payable to Sr. Joseph Sr. Thomas Hankey and Co. for	279-4-6	32-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Thomas Cooke payable to George Mandeville Esqr. for	1,745-7-3	200-0-0
One Do. to Do. payable to George Barne Esqr. for	610-14-6	70-0-0
One Do. to Do. account Mr. Richard Douglass payable to William Miller Esqr. for	5,785-11-6	662-18-11

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to Mr. Culling Smith payable to Messrs. Richd. Becher Luke Scrafton and William Forth for	21,850-0-0	2,503-12-11
One Do. to Capt. Jeremiah Heffernam payable to Edward Holden Cruttenden Esqr. for	436-5-9	50-0-0
One Do. to Lieut. Thomas Cockran payable to Messrs. Henry and Robert Drummond for	11,508-0-0	172-15-10
One Do. to Mr. John Hackett payable to Messrs. Martin Stone and Blackwell for .	872-11-9	100-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Charles Douglass on his own Account payable to Messrs. Samuel Bennett Smith and Henry Allen for	17,500-0-0	2,005-4-2
One Do. to Mr. Herbert Pyefinch payable to Mr. John Davidson Junr.	436-5-9	50-0-0
One Do. to J. Z. Holwell Esqr. Account Mr. Francis Sykes payable to Richard Becher and William Nixon Esqrs. for	37,261-8-3	4,269-11-0
One Do. to William Billers Esqr. payable to Thomas Walker Esqr. for	1,000-0-0	114-11-8
One Do. to Mr John Lowis payable to Capt. Thos. Lewis for	1,959-14-3	224-11-5
One Do. to Mr. John Zachariah Kiernander payable to John Ward Esqr. for	523-10-3	60-0-0
One Do. to William Fullerton Esqr. Account Peter Amyatt Esqr. payable to William Barwell Esqr. for	1,745-7-3	200-0-0
One Do. to Do. Account Do. payable to William Fullerton Esqr. for	8,727-4-3	1,000-0-0
One Do. to Do. Account John Sullivan payable to Mr. William Nixon for	7,693-3-0	881-10-3
One Do. to Do. payable to Mr. George Macaily for	1,474-8-0	168-19-0
One Do. to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr. payable to John Hallett Esqr. for	14,676-0-0	1,681-12-6
One Do. to Mr. Henry Lushington payable to Roger Altham Esqr. and the Reverend Mr. Henry Lushington or either of their Orders for	5,500-0-0	630-4-2

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to Mr. Abraham Gee payable to Mr. Charles Hay for	500-0-0	57-5-10
One Do. to Mr. Samuel Waller payable to Messrs. James Adams, Henry Brougham and William Waller for	15,709-1-6	1,800-0-0
One Do. to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr. payable to the Reverend Doctor John Sumner and Mr. Robert Sumner for	19,200-0-0	2,200-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Bartholemew Plaisted payable to Capt. Lorenzo Collins for	492-1-6	56-7-9
One Do. to Do. payable to Capt. Richard Allwright for	3,931-3-3	450-9-0
One Do. to Samuel Waller payable to Messrs. James Adams, Henry Brougham and William Waller for	21,818-3-0	2,500-0-0
One Do. to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr. payable to the Reverend Dr. John Sumner and Mr. Robert Sumner for	13,090-14-6	1,500-0-0
One Do. to Messrs. Culling Smith and Anselm Beaumont payable to Roger Drake Beeston Long and Roger Drake Junr. Esqrs. for	7,902-4-9	905-9-5
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of Nicholas Clarembault Deceas'd payable to Messrs. Benjamin Longuet and Joseph Guinand for	517-1-9	59-5-0
One Do. to Francis Forde Esqr. Account the Estate of Capt. Wolfgang Molitore payable to Francis Forde Esqr. for	9,480-9-0	1,086-6-3
One Do. to Padre Francisco D' Assumpeas payable to himself or Order for	1,745-7-3	200-0-0
One Do. to Mr. John Tole payable to himself or Order for	2,618-3-0	300-0-0
One Sett to Capt. George Lindsey payable to Charles Raymond Esqr. for	8,727-4-3	1,000-0-0
One Do. to Hon'ble Robert Clive Esqr. payable to himself or Order for	13,963-10-3	1,600-0-0
One Do. to Capt. George Beamish payable to himself or Order for	21,600-0-0	2,475-0-0
One Do. to Capt. Bernard Forrester payable to Messrs. Grindon and Ferguson for	17,454-8-6	2,000-0-0



34. By advices lately received from Capt. Fischer the Commander in Chief of our Forces in the Deccan We hear that the French Party which We before advis'd you had left Vizagapatam had embark'd for Pondicherry on two Brigantines and a Sloop but that they proving leakey they were under the necessity of running one of the Brigantines and the Sloop ashore—by this means about One hundred Europeans and Four hundred Seapoys were landed at a place called Kakeinara. Capt. Fischer having intelligence of their being Landed march'd towards them with the utmost expedition and coming up with them the next day had the good fortune to disperse the whole Party by killing some few and taking Prisoners betwixt Fifteen and Twenty Officers and Private Men. The Marquis De Pouet the Commander of the French Party who had not disembark'd sail'd that Evening out of the Road. The finishing stroke being thus put to the influence of the French in that part of the Country Capt. Fischer writes he hopes shortly to proceed to us with his Party and to leave every thing in perfect tranquility—he further informs us that Colonel Coote had taken Vandewash and Carringola by Capitulation and was on his March towards Arcot. We have likewise the pleasure to find that one half of the Sum stipulated by the Rajah for the Payment of the Troops⁶ when in the field has been duly receiv'd by Capt. Fischer and that he had great hopes of receiving the remainder before he left that Country. As he seems to entertain some apprehensions of the Morattoes lying betwixt Vizagapatam and Ballasore with intent to obstruct his Passage and on that account purposes staying some time at Vizagapatam We have directed him to proceed to us without loss of time as We have reason to think his apprehensions on this occasion are groundless.

35. A Country Vessell lately arriv'd from the East Coast brings us intelligence that the Dutch were involv'd in great troubles with the Mallays⁷ in those parts they having taken possession of one of their Settlements and being ripe for a general Revolt.

36. Enclos'd in this Packet you will receive Translate of a Letter address'd to you by the Subah and by him committed to the care of Colonel Clive in order to be deliver'd to your Honors with a present to the Honble East India Company consisting of Seven Packetts of Curiosities the Contents of which We are unacquainted with.

37. We have Laden on this Ship sundry Goods amounting as Pr. Invoice and Bill of Lading Enclos'd to Rs. C4,07,600 and wish her a safe and speedy Passage to your Honors.

We are

May it please your Honors
Your most Obedient & faithfull Servants.

Fort William

February the 3d. 1760.

[Per *Royal George*

Duplicate per *Duke of Dorset*

Triplicate per *Royal Duke*]

LETTER DATED 5 FEBRUARY 1760

Pepper from Benkulen, Sumatra.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors

Agreeable to our several Letters of this Season We now send the Ajax Capt. Lindsay to Bencoolen to be filled up with Pepper and finally dispatched to your Honors having Laden on her sundry Goods and Merchandize Consigned to your Honors amounting as P. Invoice and Bill of Lading enclos'd to CRs. 4,12,000-0-0. We heartily wish her a safe and speedy passage being with the greatest respect.

Fort William,
February 5th, 1760
[Per Ajax Via Bencoolen]

May it please your Honors
&ca

LETTER DATED 3 MARCH 1760

Shipping news—coins from Company's mint—Capt. Fischer returns from southern expedition—Shah Alam defeated—Dutch fortifications at Chinsura to be demolished—Maratha incursion into Bengal—presents from Jagat Seth—bills of exchange.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors

1. The Royal George carried our Address to your Honors under date the 3rd Ultimo. We have since learnt that she left Ingellee the 15th of that Month as did the Stormont and Houghton for Bombay the former the 10th Feby. and the latter the 1st Inst.

2. A Greater quantity of Goods coming from the Aurungs and Subordinates than was expected when We closed our Letter by the Royal George We came to a resolution of Shipping Five hundred and fifty Bales on the Ajax—The three thousand Bags of Salt Petre We had before laden on her proving insufficient for her to proceed to Sea with. We at the request of Capt. Lindsay Shipp'd one thousand Baggs more reserving to the Company the privilege of its going on whole or half freight—with this Cargo she was dispatch'd to

Bencoolen the [...] instant in order to take in the remainder of the Pepper laying there and proceed to your Honors—The particular sortments of Goods and quantity Laden on her will appear by the accompanying abstract of her Invoice.

3. The enclos'd statement of the Investment sent you by the Shipping of this Season will shew the reasons for the Encrease and Decrease of the several Articles and will We flatter ourselves convince you that your Interest therein has been solely studied.

4. In this Packet We send you Four Gold Mohurs and Forty Sicca Rupees coin'd in our Mint to which and some observations thereon in a separate sheet We beg leave to be referr'd.

5. Agreeable to what We wrote in our Address Pr. Royal George a List of demands for Bonds lost at the Capture of Calcutta was laid before us the 25th Ultimo and is enter'd after that days Consultation—The amount of which falls very short of the Debt at Interest according to the Statement enter'd after our Consultation of the 15th January which circumstance together with the very low state of the Treasury at the time of the loss of the place and for some time before We think amounts to almost an undeniable proof of the validity of those Claims yet tho' We are well convinced of the Justice of those demands We did not think ourselves authoriz'd to comply with the request made us today of discharging them either in ready Cash or by granting new Bonds, but beg leave to recommend to your consideration the great hardship these Sufferers labor under.

6. Conformable to our resolution of Council of the 31st January and what We wrote you Pr. Royal George your demand on Account Deepchund's Deposit has been laid before the Commissioners of Restitution whose determination thereon you will observe on the face of the Consultation of this day.

7. We have the pleasure of advising you that Capt. Fischer with the Europeans under his Command arriv'd in the River a few days since on board the Company's Ship the Duke and a Country Vessel. The Seapoys on that expedition were to commence their March from Vizagapatam towards us the 17th Ultimo—We are extremely sorry it is not in our power to send you the particulars of the Expences of this Expedition by this Ship as Mr. Johnstone is but this day come up to Town and transcribing the Accounts would require so much time that it could not be compleated without retarding the Dispatch of the Ship. We enclose however a short Statement of that Expedition for your present satisfaction.

8. You have before been advis'd of the Shawzadah's having again Enter'd this Province and of Major Caillaud's March against him in conjunction with the Young Nabob—By a Letter lately receiv'd from the Major We had the pleasure to learn that the Shawzadah was defeated on 22d. Ultimo for the particulars of which We beg leave to refer you to a Copy of the said Letter which goes in this Packett.

9. The Dutch having made many infringements on the late Treaty concluded with the Nabob¹ by the addition of several new Batteries and Works to their Fort at Chinchurah We judg'd it necessary to advise the Nabob thereof who sent his Son-in-law Cossim Ally Cawn to that place with a body of Troops and demanded the assistance of a party of ours to join him and assist in seeing the Works demolish'd. In consequence of this demand We sent Capt. Spears with Three hundred Europeans and some Seapoys to the French Gardens under Orders of Cossim Ally Cawn but these acting in terrorem enabled Cassim Ally Cawn to carry into Execution the Nabob's Orders without the public intervention of our Troops.

10. The Morattoes taking the advantage of the Young Nabob's March to Patna and his father beyond Sicklagully advanced under the Command of Soobabut from Orixia into this Province² under pretence of demanding their Chout but in reality to cause a diversion in favor of the Shawzadah—The Nabob on this wrote repeated Letters to the President requesting Capt. Spears and his Party might remain in conjunction with Cossim Ally Cawn to repel those Invaders and they are accordingly now on that Service.

11. By a separate Consultation sent on this Ship you will see the result of our Scrutiny into the charge of Mr. Mc. Gwire ag^tinst Mr. Verelst with respect to the charges inadvertently made against your express Orders We shall demand the repayment of them and you may depend on our issuing such Orders for the future provision of the Investment at Luckipore as We judge most condusive [*sic*] to your real Interest and beg leave to assure you that after the dispatch of this Ship We will take into mature consideration the state of all the Subordinates and retrench every needless Expence therein as well as in every other branch of your Affairs, but cannot help remarking that the Allowances to the Chiefs &ca. at the Subordinates according to the present Establishment and the present time are so very low that We hope you will take the Augmenting them into your Consideration.

12. Capt. Bernard Forrester died the 2d Instant of the wound he receiv'd in the late Action against the Dutch. We think it incumbent on us upon this occasion to bear testimony of the activity and gallant behaviour which brought this misfortune on his family. We have confirm'd Mr. John Allen the Chief Mate in the Command of the Duke of Dorsett and have deliver'd to his care a present to the Company from Juggutseat consisting of a bundle of fine Clothes and a Box of Essences which would have accompanied his Address to the Company by the Royal George but did not arrive in time.

13. We enclose for your satisfaction a Statement of the Company's Account with the European Sufferers.

14. The Balance of the Tuncaws on the Lands made over for our Security is Seventeen Lacks of Rupees which We have good reason to believe will be clear'd by the last of August next but still think it necessary to represent to you that even this to supply supposing the Kistebundees are duly paid

will fall very short of the Sum necessary for carrying on the business and defraying the Expences of the Current Year—And therefore our great dependance is on the hopes of a large supply by the next Ships as without it we foresee we shall have many and heavy difficulties to encounter.

15. We have already requested your Honors to encrease the number of Servants on this Establishment and now beg leave to recommend Mr. John Verelst as a person who by his long Residence here being well vers'd in Accounts and the business of this Country We esteem well qualified and worthy your employ.

16. We have by this Ship drawn on you One hundred and one Setts of Bills of Exchange payable at 2s-3½ d Pr. Current Rupee and Three hundred and Sixty five days after sight amounting to CRs. 6,46,763-15-0 or £St 74,694-12-6

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to William Mc.Gwire Esqr. payable to Francis Forde Esqr. for	7,000-0-0	802-1-8
One Do. to Mr. Samuel Howitt payable to Mrs. Elizabeth Howitt for	872-11-9	100-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Thomas Motley payable to Francis Austin Esqr. for	3,490-14-6	400-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Francis Walmesley payable to Messrs. James Walmesley and William Nixon for	3,090-14-6	1,500-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Samuel Howitt Account the Estate of Stephen Pa[.] Deceas'd payable to Tilman Henckell Esqr. for	1,114-1-3	127-13-0
One Sett to Messrs. O'Hara Hay and Howitt Account Capt. Muir Payable to Capt. Grainger Muir and Mr. John Thompson for	1,272-14-0	145-17-0
One Do. to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr. payable to John Hallett Esqr. for	6,936-0-0	794-15-0
One Do. to Mr. John Lowis payable to himself or Order for	957-4-0	109-13-8
One Do. to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr. and Mr. Culling Smith payable to Jacob Moseh and Raphael Franco for	3,333-6-3	381-19-0
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Mendez Da Costa and Nunez Brothers for	667-3-6	76-9-0
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Mr. Judah Supino for	265-2-0	30-7-7

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr. and Mr. Culling Smith payable to Josh. Salvadore for	1,225-7-3	140-8-4
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Mr. James Adams	216-9-0	24-16-[3?]
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Thomas Saunders Esqr. for	193-12-3	22-4-0
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Adam Dawson Esqr. for	211-8-6	24-4-9
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Thomas Godfrey Esqr. for	11,574-3-0	1,326-4-2
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Mr. Nathan Modiglian for	2,726-14-3	312-9-1
One Do. to Do. and Do. Account the Estate of Mr. Bing payable to John Cooke Esqr. for	3,757-3-3	430-10-4
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Messrs. Manningham and Frankland for	21,000-0-0	2,406-5-0
One Do. to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr. payable to Thomas Holme Esqr. for	7,024-9-6	804-18-0
One Do. to Do. payable to Do. for	354-10-6	40-12-9
One Do. to Mr. John Hales payable to Mr. Peter Mandroit for	2,110-12-3	241-17-2
One Do. to Capt. Charles Newton payable to Mr. John Scrivener for	18,329-2-0	2,100-4-3
One Do. to Doctor George Gray payable to Messrs. Henry Allen and George Gray for	9,600-0-0	1,100-0-0
One Do. to Do. payable to John Browne Esqr. for	110-5-0	12-12-10
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of Capt. Grahame Deceas'd payable to Mr. William Grahame for	175-12-0	20-2-9
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of Mr. Stair' Dalrymple Deceas'd payable to Charles Dalrymple Esqr. for	258-11-0	29-12-10
One Do. to Do. payable to Alexander Robertson Esqr. for	210-7-0	24-2-3
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of William Grubb Deceas'd payable to Henry Grubb	180-3-0	20-12-1

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to Capt. Walter Alves payable to Mr. Andrew Alves for	216-0-0	24-15-0
One Do. to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr. and Mr. Culling Smith payable to William Frankland Esqr. for	5,435-3-3	622-15-[8]
One Do. to Bartholomew Plaisted payable to Capt. Jonathan Ranson for	1,336-8-0	153-2-9
One Do. to Capt. Charles Newton payable to Mrs. Sarah Newton for	7,000-0-0	802-1-8
One Do. to Mr. John Knox payable to Mr. Sweet Wood for	8,727-4-3	1,000-0-0
One Do. to Do. payable to himself or order	6,067-15-9	695-5-9
One Do. to Mr. Oliver Webb Account Frederick Cobbe Pitman Esqr. payable to Lawrence Sullivan Esqr. for	448-13-9	51-8-7
One Do. to Messrs. George Gray Junr. and Thomas Amphlett Account Mr. Henry Lushington payable to Roger Altham Esqr. and the Reverend Mr. Henry Lushington or either of their Orders for	8,880-0-0	1,017-10-0
One Do. to Messrs. Culling Smith and Anselm Beaumont payable to David De Castro for	130-14-0	14-19-11
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Richard and William Barwell Esqrs. for	10,766-14-3	1,233-14-1
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Jacob Da Natal Levi Sensins for	848-0-3	97-3-4
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Abra'm and Jacob Frances for	468-13-9	53-14-5
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Mosch Franco and Company for	338-14-0	38-16-7
One Do. to Do. and Do. payable to Roger Drake Beeston Long and Roger Drake Junr. Esqrs. for	45,000-0-0	5,156-5-0
One Do. to Messrs. Harry Verelst and Culling Smith payable to Mrs. Elizabeth Beard for	1,464-7-9	167-16-1

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to Mr. Culling Smith Account the Estate of Nichs. Clarembault. Deceas'd payable to Messrs. Benjamin Longuit and Joseph Guinand	2,256-0-0	258-10-3
One Do. to Do. payable to Matthew Collett Esqr.	2,232-9-6	255-16-4
One Do. to Messrs. Culling Smith and Francis Charlton Acct. Capt. Alexander Grant payable to Mr. George and William Cattanacks for	2,755-1-9	315-7-9
One Do. to Messrs Culling Smith and Anselm Beaumont payable to David Rannie Esqr. for	33,000-0-0	3,781-5-0
One Do. to Mr. Anselm Beaumont Account the Estate of William Dogan Deceas'd payable to Mrs. Catherine Beaumont for	3,807-0-0	436-4-5
One Do. to Do. Account Robert Orme Esqr. payable to Peter and Joseph Godfrey Esqrs. for	5,621-13-3	644-3-4
One Do. to Mr. William Fullerton Account the Estate of William Lindsay payable to Robert Orme Esqr. for	2,000-0-0	229-3-4
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of Robert Wark payable to John Walsh Esqr. for	5,500-0-0	630-4-2
One Do. to William Fullerton Account the Estate of James Valicourt payable to John Fullerton Esqr. for	2,400-0-0	275-0-0
One Do. to Do. payable to Mr. Wm. Nixon for	3,800-0-0	435-8-4
One Do. to Do. payable to Edward Holden Cruttenden Esqr. for	60,000-0-0	6,875-0-0
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of Francis Stevenson payable to Mr. William Ferguson for	813-0-0	93-3-1
One Do. to Do. payable to Mr. Thomas Raitt for	4,100-0-0	469-15-10
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of Thomas Coales payable to Capt. Thomas Townsend for	6,000-0-0	687-10-0

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to William Fullerton payable to Wm. Watts Esqr. for	14,000-0-0	1,604-3-4
One Do. to Do. payable to John Fullerton Esqr. for	14,000-0-0	1,604-3-4
One Do. to the Hon'ble John Zephaniah Holwell Esqr. payable to William Davis Esqr. for	11,345-7-3	1,300-0-0
One Do. to Do. Account Restitution of Sundry Deceased's Effects payable to William Davis Esqr. for	1,499-8-3	171-16-4
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of William Parker deceas'd payable to Davis Esqr. for	904-6-3	103-12-7
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of Thomas Leech Deceas'd payable to William Davis Esqr. for	663-13-0	76-1-3
One Do. to John Zephaniah Holwell Esqr. Account the Estate of Colonel Caroline Frederick Scott payable to George Scott Esqr. for	1,021-9-0	117-1-8
One Do. to Do. Account the Estate of Nathan Drake Deceas'd payable to Edward Wharton Esqr.	609-6-9	69-16-7
One Do. to Capt. Charles Newton payable to himself or order for	9,000-0-0	1,031-5-0
One Do. to Capt. P. Duncan payable to John Walsh Esqr. for	34,909-1-0	4,000-0-0
One Do. to Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft payable to Mrs. Mary Bodley for	915-4-0	104-17-5
One Do. to Doctor George Gray payable to Mr. Philip Templer and his Sisters for	182-6-3	20-17-11
One Do. to John Brohier Esqr. payable to Mr. John Le Gros for	27,262-0-9	3,123-15-6
One Do. to Do. payable to Do. for	5,725-2-6	656-0-2
One Do. to Do. payable to Do. for	20,160-0-0	2,310-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Herbert Pyefinch payable to Capt. Charles Newton for	2,000-0-0	229-3-4
One Do. to Capt. George Lindsay payable to Charles Raymond Esqr. for	9,600-0-0	1,100-0-0
One Do. to Messrs. Fullerton and Amphlett payable to Robert Clive Esqr. for	40,896-6-0	4,686-0-10

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to John Brohier Esqr. payable to Mr. John Le Gros for	7,938-8-6	909-12-5
One Do. to Do. payable to Do. for	1,249-4-6	143-2-11
One Do. to Messrs. Hay Lushington and Gray for the Nett Proceeds of a Chest of Coral mark'd* No. 2 Imported at Fort St. George Pr Duke of Dorset 1755 payable to Mr. Nathan Modigliani for	2,961-0-0	339-5-8
One Do. to Messrs. Harry Verelst and William Magee Accot. the Estate of Messrs. Jenks and Reveley payable to Messrs. Richard Becher and Thomas Boddam for	3,897-11-3	466-12-3
One Do. to Capt. Bernard Forrester payable to Messrs. Grindon and Ferguson for	18,327-4-3	2,100-0-0
One Do. to Mr. John Allen payable to the Reverend Doctor John Allen for	1,242-11-6	143-4-7
One Do. to Mr. Anselm Beaumont payable to Messrs. Gamon and Challoner for	1,726-11-3	197-17-0
One Do. to Mr. Anselm Beaumont payable to Mr. Richard Gammon for	1,042-8-9	119-9-2
One Do. to Do. payable to Thomas Waters Esqr. for	2,129-14-9	244-1-2
One Do. to Do. payable to Christopher Baron Esqr. for	217-5-0	24-18-0
One Do. to Do. payable to Capt. Henry Fletcher for	5,000-0-0	572-18-4
One Do. to Messrs. Ridge and Child Attorneys for Lieutenant Summers payable to Mr. David Frinder for	5,000-0-0	572-18-4
One Do. to Messrs. Harry Verelst and William Magee payable to Thomas Boddam Esqr. or in his absence to Alexander and Abra'm Hume & Peter Roberts Esqrs. for	2,394-6-0	274-7-1
One Do. to Mr. John Lewis payable to Capt. Tom Lewis for	9,594-4-0	1,099-6-10

*Trade symbol. Please see symbol 15 in chart showing trade symbols of the East India Company facing p. 202 in *Fort William—India House Correspondence*, Vol. II.

	CRs.	£St.
One Sett to Messrs. George Gray Junr. and Thomas Amphlett Account Mr. Henry Lushington payable to Roger Altham Esqr. and the Reverend Mr. Henry Lushington or either of their Orders for .	8,727-4-3	1,000-0-0
One Do. to Mr. Richard Finley payable to Messrs. Jonathan Ranson and William Finley for	3,614-0-0	414-2-0
One Do. to Mr. Thomas Cooke payable to Capt. John Durand for	6,109-1-6	700-0-0
One Do. to Do. Account Capt. Francis Walmsley payable to Messrs. James Walmsley and William Nixon for . . .	1,354-0-9	155-3-0
One Do. to Capt. Hugh Baillie payable to Mr. Hugh Baillie Senr. for	3,521-6-0	403-9-10
One Do. to the Honble John Zephaniah Holwell Esqr. payable to William Davis Esqr. for	2,125-14-6	243-11-11
One Do. to Mr. Thomas Amphlett payable to Edmond Maskelyne Esqr. for	474-0-3	54-6-3
One Do. to Mr. Charles Greenhill payable to Mr. Robin Ogleby for	2,000-0-0	229-3-8
One Do. to Capt. George Lindsay payable to Charles Raymond Esqr. for	9,000-0-0	1,030-5-0
One Do. to Mr. William Fullerton Account of John Smith payable to John Ward Esqr. for	6,000-0-0	687-10-0
One Do. to Mr. Thomas Blaney payable to William Alexander Esqr. for	1,745-7-3	200-0-0

17. On this Ship We have Laden five hundred and forty Bags containing Seven hundred and Eighty Seven Maunds Ten Seer of Turmerick on half freight as Pr separate Bill of Lading and sundry other Goods and Merchandize amounting as Pr Invoice and Bill of Lading enclos'd to CRs. 9,04,500-0-0.

18. We wish her a safe and speedy Passage to your Honors being with the greatest respect.

May it please your Honors
Your &ca

Fort William,
March, 3rd 1760.

J. Z. Holwell/W. B. Sumner/W. M. Guire/
S. Batson/H. Verelst/H. Smyth.

[Per *Duke of Dorsett*
Dupl. per *Royal Duke*]

LETTER DATED 10 NOVEMBER 1760

Revolution in favour of Mir Qasim—its advantages to the Company—arrangements for newly acquired districts.

TO the Honble Court of Directors for affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.
May it please your Honors

[1.] We take the opportunity of a foreign conveyance to advise you of a Revolution effected in the Subahship of Bengall in favour of Mir Mahommud Cossim Aly Chan, a Son in law of the late Nabob Jaffeir Aly Chan's. For the reason why and the Manner in which this Negociation was carried on we beg leave to refer you to the Select Committee, and shall here enumerate in a few Words the great Advantages resulting to the Honble Company from the Change of Government.

[2.] Besides a Confirmation of the Treaty made with Jaffeir Aly Chan and the Payment of the Ballance of that Nabob's Debt to us, are the following new Acquisitions. First the Possession of the Countries of Birdawan Mednapoor and Chittigong in full Right, to be managed by us as we shall think most advantageous to our Employers; Secondly the Grant of half the Chunam provided at Silhut for three Years to come, to be paid for at the Prime Cost; Thirdly a Present of five Lacks of Rupees to be sent to the Presidency of Fort St George in order to support the War against our Enemies on that Coast; and this is a Voluntary Gift of the New Subah, exclusive of the Agreement; Fourthly a Renewal in the strictest Terms of the Order of the Government for the Currency of the Calcutta Siccas from the Interruption of which during the Late Nabob's Time we found so great Inconvenience and there is much reason to think with his Connivance and even Encouragement.

[3.] We shall at present defer entering upon a Detail of the prodigious Benefit of these Concessions and proceed to inform you that How necessary to the Safety of these Provinces, and consequently to the Honble Company's Possessions in Bengall, as well as beneficial to the Company this Revolution became, will easily appear from a memorial delivered to the Board by the Governor, wherein, exclusive of the Company's particular Advantage, are enumerated the Causes why a Reform in the Administration was intended; into what a declining Situation the Affairs of the Kingdom had plunged, what Measures were practicable for their Redemption, and that none but a violent and instantaneous Remedy could be applied. This Memorial therefore, of which your Honors have a Copy enclosed, may be esteemed a perfect Manifestation to the World of the propriety of the Measures we have pursued and of our Adherence to the Good of the Kingdom, and we cannot but flatter ourselves that we shall be so happy to meet with your Approbation.

[4.] We have already received Perwannahs of the Possession of the new Districts and have appointed a Chief and Council for the Province of Chittigong consisting of Messrs. Harry Verelst, Randolph Marriott and Thomas Rumbold, that being the most distant and from its present unsettled State, requiring the Management of one of the Members of the Board. That Gentleman will proceed to his Charge in a few days. The Districts of Burdawan and Midnapoor we shall regulate as will appear to us the most proper after the Rajah and Phousdar arrive, and lay before us the Statements of their several Possessions.

[5.] We have the pleasure to advise you the undermentioned Ships arrived safe and are destined as follows :—

Royal Duke	}	fully laden from hence for Europe
Latham		
Lord Anson		
Triton.....		Bombay and China
Sandwich	}	Bombay
Lord Mansfield		

Godolphin freighted to the Arabian Gulf

On slow half laden to Fort St George to be compleated and finally dispatched from thence for Europe.

Prince Edward to Fort St. George for the necessary Occasions of that Presidency.

[6.] By these Conveyances we were honored with your several Favours dated the 23rd Novr. and 1st Decr. 1759, 16th Janry. and 15th Febry. & 1st April 1760 to the particulars of which we shall answer fully by your own shipping.

We remain with Respect

May it please your Honors

Your faithful Servants,

Fort William
the 10th Novr. 1760.
[Duplicate]

Henry Van Sittart/W. M. Ellis/W. B. Sumner/
H. Smyth/S. Waller/Culling Smith.

8

LETTER DATED 12 NOVEMBER 1760

Retreat of Shah Alam—revolt of Khadim Husain, Nawab of Purnea—death of Miran.

TO the Honble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs

1. We embrace the opportunity of a Dutch Ship's Sailing direct for Europe just to advise you of the late important Occurrences and of the Present Situation of Affairs in Bengall.

2. In our Address to you by the Ships of last Season you were informed of the Sha-Zadah's having again entered these Provinces, and of Coll. Caillaud's being sent with a Detachment in Conjunction with the Chutah-Nabob to oppose him. They accordingly met and engaged him several times with Success, but never were able effectually to reduce him so as to prevent his reassembling his Troops and put[t]ing himself again in Condition to renew his Designs.

3. In this Situation the two Armies continued till the Month of June when the Sha-Zadah retreated towards the Soane, and the Attention of our Forces was in some Degree taken off from him and employed on the Purnea Nabob who had thrown off his Allegiance to Jaffier Aly Khan and was endeavouring to join the Prince to prevent his succeeding in his Designs our Troops crossed the River and gave him Battle, in which we were as usual successful, but by the Chuta Nabob's Cavalry not pursuing the advantage the Enemy escaped, and your Troops remained in Camp near Patna.

4. On the first of July the Chuta Nabob was killed in his tent by a flash of lightning which Circumstance gave rise to the Revolutions and Change which have since happened.

5. By the Ship which we hope to dispatch in December we shall give you a full and particular Description of the Situation of the Affairs of the Company and of the Country. By this Conveyance we can only inform you, that our own Distresses and those of the Government were so great that an immediate Remedy was absolutely necessary. The enclosed Copy of the Treaty made with Cossim Ally Cawn will shew the Advantages and Benefits which have been obtained for the Company, exclusive of a voluntary Present to them of five Lacks of Rupees. The Perwanahs for the Lands we have already received, and Servants are appointed to proceed and take Possession of them in the Name of the Company. What the Annual Revenue may be we cannot pretend precisely to determine at present, but hope to give you a near Calculation by your own Ships.

6. In a memorial transmitted on this Ship by the President and Council you will be advised of the principal Circumstances attending this important Event, to which we beg Leave to be refered for the present.

7. Colonel Caillaud and Major Carnac are now on their way to Patna in order, if possible to accommodate Matters with the Sha-Zadah: From whence he is to return next Month in order to proceed to assist at the Siege of Pondicherry; and for which Service we shall if possible furnish a Detachment of Military.

8. Major Yorke is at Morshedabad with a Command of about Two hundred Europeans and a Party of Seapoys to protect and establish the new Nabob Cossim Ally Cawn.

We are

Honble Sirs

Fort William
12th November 1760.

Your most Obedient Humble Servants
Wm. B. Sumner/W. Mc Gwire.

LETTER DATED 12 NOVEMBER 1760

Mir Jafar's agreement with the Dutch—the Marathas proclaim Shah Alam as emperor—preparations for siege of Pondicherry.

TO the Secret Committee of the Honourable the Court of Directors

Gentlemen

1. I had the honour of addressing you in Triplicate from Fort St. George the 1st July last.

2. By the advices transmitted by this Conveyance from the Governor and Council to the Honourable Court of Directors, and from the Select Committee to you Gentlemen you will be informed of the Vigorous Measures I have been obliged to pursue since my Arrival here. It will give me the highest Satisfaction to hear that they meet with yours and the Court's Approbation.

3. But the Notice we have had of this Opportunity of a Dutch Ship has been so short that our Addresses are rather defective. I will endeavour to make up for this in some measure while the General Packets are closing.

4. On my arrival here the 27th of July, I found two Dutch Gentlemen, Deputies from Chin[rsu]a endeavouring to get all Disputes with the Nabob settled through our Mediation. I soon concluded the Treaty¹ of which I have the honor to transmit herewith a Copy under No. 1. The Article which forbids their Ships to come up the Rivers is certainly the greatest Security the Nabob could have, as Chincura is always at his mercy.

5. It seems to be pretty certain by the last Advices from Delly that the Morattas have come to an accommodation with Abdulla, and that they have agreed in proclaiming the Shawzada Emperor. I hope this will induce him the more readily to quit his Designs of these Provinces. Colonel Caillaud has Instructions if possible to come to a Treaty with him—For further particulars on this Subject and of the Present Disturbed State of the affairs about Patna I beg leave to refer you to the inclos'd Papers No. 2 being copy of a letter from myself and Col. Caillaud jointly to the Gentn. of the Select Committee here, and No. 3 a Letter from me separately, both dated the 3rd of this month, the day I took leave of the Nabob. To the last is annexed the Copy of a Letter of Advice which I deliver'd to the Nabob, and which it is absolutely necessary he should follow. There is no other way of remedying the Disorders which have overrun these Provinces under the last Administration.

6. We have to this time no certain Advices of the French Fleet. They have handed about a very long List of what they pretend to expect; Inclos'd is a copy of that List, the most of which you will observe to be their old Ships

the junction of the New Ones therein mentioned is I believe rather what they hope than what they have an account of By our last Advices from Madras it seems that Admiral Steevens is determin'd to stay out the Monsoon and if he has such success as to prevent the Enemy from throwing in Supplies by Sea to Pondicherry, there is great reason to hope the place will be taken in January. Our Army are in possession of Areacopang, the washing Town, and wait only the fair Weather to begin the Siege.

7. By the Ships of this Season I have received your Commands of the 7th December 1759, 18th January and 7th February 1760 to all which I shall reply by your own Ships.

I am with the greatest respect
Honourable Gentlemen

Fort William Your most Obedient and most humble Servant
12th Novemr. 1760. Henry Van Sittart

10

LETTER DATED 22 DECEMBER 1760

Shipping news.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors,

1. We have now the pleasure to address you by the Onslow Capt. Hinde which Ship we have this day dispatch'd with 30 Tons of Redwood 3750 bags of Petre and 500 Bales of Cloth to Madras amounting to Rs. 370,700 as Per Invoices and bill of lading enclos'd in order to be fill'd up and finally dispatched to your Honours. We have already wrote the Gentlemen of that Presidency to acquaint them with our Intentions that they may get ready such bales in time as they purpose lading on her.

2. The Royal Duke's dispatches we have now in hand and hope to be able to forward two [*sic*] directly to Europe the latter end of this month with a full loading and shall by her send you our Address under the established heads to which we shall refer your Honours for particulars. We purpos'd enclosing Duplicate thereof by this ship but as the detaining of her any longer, as she was first to proceed to the Coast might be the means of greatly prolonging her Passage, We thought it most proper for the Companys interest to send her

without it and wait till the departure of the Latham which ship will be dispatched to your Honors directly the Latter end of next month

We are

May it please your Honors
Your most obedient and faithfull servants.

Fort William
December 22nd, 1760.

Henry Van Sittart/P. Amyatt/W. Ellis/Wm. B.
Sumner/H. Smyth/S. Waller/Culling Smith.

II

LETTER DATED 12 JANUARY 1761

Shah Alam's victory over Ramnarayan—Maj. Carnac's operations against Shah Alam--blockade of Pondicherry.

TO the Honble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

1. We have this Season had the Honour to receive your favours of the 23rd of November 1759 and 9th of April 1760.

2. In our address to your honors by the Calcutta and Hardwick under date the 3rd of January 1760 We mentioned the Shazadah's having again entered the Province. We did not then think him sufficiently formidable to apprehend any ill consequences, but contrary to our Expectations being joined by a considerable number of disaffected Rajahs, before the detachment under Colonel Caillaud could reach Patna, he engaged Ramnarain's Army who marched out at his approach in conjunction with a detachment of our Military and Seapoys. In this Action We had the misfortune to lose Lieutenant Cochran and Ensign Winklebeck with a considerable number of seapoys. Mr. Edward Barwell who served as a volunteer upon this occasion was likewise unhappily cut off.

3. After this Success the Prince remained near Patna till the Chuta Nabob and Colonel Caillaud reach'd him with Success, but his army chiefly consisting of Cavalry and light troops he retired by a tract behind the Hills which till then was thought impassible [*sic*] and penetrated into Bengal even as far as the province of Burdwaun, but being closely pursued by the Nabobs and our forces he was prevented from advancing to the City of Moorshedabad which was at one time very much apprehended.

4. The interval of the rainy season soon coming on our Troops retired into Patna, and those of the Shazadah continued not far distant.

5. The evil consequences of his remaining in possession of so considerable a part of the Province, and his being still so strongly supported by Comdar Cawn, Pulwansing¹, Monsr. Law and others made us much wish to come to accommodation, and our inclinations have accordingly been intimated to him, but by the best intelligence we can obtain he is engaged by such great promises to his followers that there is little prospect of our proposals meeting with the desired end—Directions have therefore been sent to Major Carnac who now commands the Army Vigorously to pursue the War and if possible to drive him and his adherents out of the Province. Should he attempt to make an incursion into Bengal as he did last year Major Yorke with near three hundred Europeans a party of Seapoys and a detachment of the Nabobs troops is advanced on the road by which [be] last entered. Which force we hope will be sufficient to prevent his progress this way and reduce him to the necessity of coming to a decisive action either with Major Carnac or Major Yorke. But our more immediate motive for directing the latter to take the field was to reduce to Subjection the Rajah of Beerboon who for some time past has thrown off his Allegiance to the Subah and declared in favour of the Prince.

6. In our letter from the Board We have given you so full and explicit an Account of the Revolution lately brought about with its causes and consequences that there remains nothing for us to say on the Subject.

7. Our proceedings transmitted to your honors by this Ship fully shew the Progress of our last negociation with the Dutch to the conclusion of the treaty with them on the 25th of August which will We hope bind them not to attempt to lessen our influence in these Provinces, but you may be assured We shall upon all occasions keep a Watchfull eye over them, and vigorously exert ourselves for the Support of what We have obtained.

8. By the latest advices from Madrass dated November the 25th Colonel Coote with the Army was lying very near Pondicherry and only waited for the fair Season's setting in to erect his Batteries and begin the Siege. Admiral Steevens finding it necessary to repair some of His Majesty's Ships was gone to Trincomally having left five ships of the line under the command of Captain Haldane to block up the Port of Pondicherry and cut off all Supplies of Provision or Ammunition—Before the Admiral's departure he had cut out of Pondicherry road to Frigates, the other Ship which was lying there called the Compagnie des Indes sailed out of the Road and We [fear'd] had made her Escape, but intelligence being received that she was loading Rice and provisions at Tranquebar for the Supply of Pondicherry, Captain Haldane detached two of His Majesty's Ships who took her out of the Road and thereby deprived the enemy of a supply they seem to stand in very great need of.

9. The number of Country letters sent and received has been so great that the translator has not been able to finish them in time to be transmitted by this Conveyance—they will be sent by one of the other Ships of this Season.

10. By a letter from Major Carnac dated at Jaffier Cawns Gardens the 1st Instant We learn that he has prevailed on the Nabob's Jamaatdars to move with him and that he proposed marching the next day—And by private advices received from Patna of the 2nd We have the pleasure to find he is encamped at Futtwa. We are therefore in hourly expectation of the News of his having had an Action with the Shazadah.

We are with the Greatest Respect,
Honble Sirs,

Fort William
January 12th 1761.

Your most Obedient humble Servants,
Henry Van Sittart/P. Amyatt/W. Ellis/
Wm. B. Sumner.

12

LETTER DATED 15 JANUARY 1761

Vansittart takes over charge of Governorship from Holwell—defends revolution in Bengal—requests additional allowance.

TO the Honourable the Court of Directors

Honourable Gentlemen,

1. I addressed you from Fort St. George the 1st July in Triplicate embarked in the Godolphin the 13th and took charge of the Government here the 27th. It is needless to trouble your honors further with my Thanks for Your extraordinary Confidence in me. I will endeavour to shew my gratitude by my Behaviour.

2. It would be doing Injustice to Mr. Holwell not to mention the Politeness and Friendship with which he received me, his Diligence and Care in acquainting me with the whole State of Affairs, and the great Assistance he gave me for three months afterwards that he continued in your Service. I must add also, that by all I can learn of his Behaviour while he presided, it was such as became a good servant. It was entirely owing to his Diligence that the shameful Frauds which had been committed in the Works, and of which your Honors are now particularly advised, were discovered.

3. I found as I suspected great Difficulties to struggle with, from the general confusion and disaffection of the Country, and the very low State of the Companys Treasury, One or the other of these Resolutions was immediately necessary, Either to drop our Connections with the Country Government, and withdraw our Assistance or to insist on more ample, as well as more certain Provision for the support of the Company's Expence; the first was dangerous and dishonorable as it would have given up the Country and the Nabob a

prey to a Multitude of Enemies. The other Alternative was resolved on, a favourable opportunity offered of procuring for the Company a Cession of the Districts of Burdwan Midnapore and Chittigong, and an agreement was entered into with all possible regard to our Alliance with the Nabob. In its consequences however it was the cause of his resigning the Subadaree and retiring to Calcutta. This Change happened without the least disturbance or a Man hurt. The old Nabob was received in Calcutta with all the honors due to his Rank and resides there with ease and Security. The Company are in possession of the noble territory ceded to them, and we are in a condition of opposing nay in a fair way of getting the better of all our Enemies.

4. I know however that there are many who led some by Ignorance but more by Prejudice strive to overlook the necessity of the Resolutions taken. the manner and Circumstances of their Execution, and the Advantages procured for the Company and endeavour to represent the Measures as a premeditated Breach of treaties, and the consequences as hurtful to the Company, insinuating always that the Select Committee who unanimously resolved on this plan and particularly myself had Interested Views. The most open attempt of this sort was made in Consultation the 8th Inst. and an answer to it is entered the 12th. As it is first before Your Honble Court that I wish to have my Conduct appear in its true light, and as it is to you only the necessary Informations are transmitted, so I shall trust to your defending me against all unjust Aspersions. Nor do I expect or desire this until you are convinced yourselves of my having sought with Diligence and disinterestedness the Welfare of this Country and the prosperity of the Company. You will be pleased to read the proceedings of the Select Committee for August, September, October and till the 6th November, The Consultations of the 1st September 8th and 10th November and 8th and 12th January the general Letter by this Ship and the several Papers in the Packet therein referred to. I flatter myself they contain enough to preserve and establish that good opinion with which you have always honored and Indulged me.

5. I got while I was at Moorshedabad five original Letters written to the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn, three by Mr. Bisdome the late Director at Hougly and two by Coja Wazeed the famous Merchant of that Place. The Second of Mr. Bisdome's letters is that which I refer to in the Minute of Consultation of the 12th Inst. The rest are not very material. They will all be entered in the end of the Book of Country Letters, but as they are not in sufficient forwardness to be sent by this Ship, I take the Liberty to enclose herewith a copy of the said five Letters.

6. Next after your Honors I wish my Conduct to be made clear to my Friend and Patron Colonel Clive. For this I shall depend on you, as well as for what to you shall seem necessary to be shewn to the World.

7. I have endeavoured since my Arrival here to maintain that Character of Assiduity in the business of my Employers which they have before done me the honor to acknowledge and commend. The complete statement now sent



Henry Vansittart

home of the Accounts between the Company &c. and the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn may be offered as a proof of this, for the Labour and Difficulty of forming such a Statement out of such Materials as were here to be met with were great indeed.

8. That my private affairs may not take up any of that Time which I hold to be the Right of the Company I have entertained assistants at the Expense of Eight thousand Rupees a year who conduct the whole with very little Instruction from me and in a separate house which I have bought for that purpose.

9. I mention this circumstance to the end of submitting to Your Honor's consideration whether I may not hope to be indulged with the additional Allowance of one thousand pounds p. annum which you were pleased to appoint to Col. Clive. I cannot pretend to equal merit but I can pretend to more Occasion. I must acknowledge at the same time that your present Allowances are very handsome, but the Public Character Your Governor here is now obliged to maintain makes the Expense extremely heavy.

10. If I have not prevailed entirely over the Difficulties which I foresaw and mentioned in my address of the 1st July yet I have the Satisfaction to know that I have done my utmost Endeavours and I can trust to your Indulgence for all Deficiencies.

Fort William 15th January 1761 [Duplicate]	I remain with equal Gratitude and Respect Honourable Gentlemen Your faithful and most obedient Humble Servant Henry Van Sittart.
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LETTER DATED 16 JANUARY 1761

French fleet in the East Indies—shipping news—Chittagong to be surveyed—condition of coinage and agreement with Mir Qasim re. coining of Murshidabad sikkas at Calcutta mint—imports from England—ban on private opium trade with Sumatra suspended—investment in saltpetre and its restricted supply to the Dutch—causes of dissatisfaction with Mir Jafar and his deposition in favour of Mir Qasim—extent of Mir Qasim's financial obligations towards the Company—withdrawal of settlement at Hainggyi—embezzlement in fortification of Fort William—arrangements for revenue collection in Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong, and quarrel with Raja of Burdwan—complaints of free merchants against Company's servants and defence of latter's trade privileges—commission to the Governor from custom duty on coral and silver—service details of civil and military servants—changes in personnel of Fort William Board—Warren Hastings transferred from Murshidabad

to Calcutta—need for translators in oriental languages—representation of subaltern officers against Capt.-Lt. Carvalho's promotion—emoluments of Governor and Councillors—personnel and scope of Select Committee—indemnity paid by the Dutch—bills of exchange—fixation of minimum amount for admitting an appeal to King and Council—exchange rate of pagoda—dissenting opinion of certain members regarding the revolution—Col. Caillaud to participate in siege of Pondicherry—accounts of monies received from Mir Jafar—Nandakumar and Raidurlabh arrested for fomenting troubles with Raja of Burdwan.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors

1. Our last Address of the Former Season was dated the 3rd March 1760, Pr. Duke of Dorset which ship was dispatched from Ingellie the 16th March, since that time we had the pleasure to Address you on the 10th November by a Dutch Ship proceeding to Europe directly. Duplicate of the Former and Triplicate of the latter we now enclose you.

2. By the Ships of this Season we have been honored with Your Several Letters dated the 23rd Novemr. and 7th Decr. 1759 and the 16th Janry. 6th and 15th Febry. and 1st April 1760 with a post[s]cript of the 3rd.

3. Our Letters betwixt the Dispatch of the Ships Calcutta and Hardwicke the first of the Season and that of the Duke of Dorset the last, Inform'd you of the transactions that occurred during the intermediate time of what has since happen'd worthy of your attention. We shall now proceed to give you a Summary detail rang'd under the Usual Established heads, and

First of Shipping

4. The Ship Houghton left the river for Bombay on the 1st of March and the Duke of Dorset and Ajax sailed the 15th with a fair wind the former we hope has arrived safe with you, the latter was dispatched for Bencoolen and proceeded as far on her Voyage as Mocomoco on the West coast of Sumatra where hearing of a large Naval Armament under the Command of Count D'Eitang going against Fort Marlbro' and our Settlements there, She put back to Fort St. George where she arriv'd safe and we are inform'd sailed from thence for Europe the 18th of August.

5. It is with concern we have to advise you of the Ship Denham's Misfortune at Fort Marlbro', we are inform'd She was set on fire and burnt with her Cargoe, but we have as yet rece'd no public Advices of the Particulars. •

6. In our letter of the 10th Novr. we advised you of the Arrival of the Ships, Godolphin, Triton, Onslow Lord Mansfield, Prince Edward,

Sandwich, Royal Duke, Latham and Lord Anson, and taking into consideration how we should dispose of so much Tonnage, we came to a resolution of appointing the Royal Duke, Latham, and Lord Anson directly home with entire Cargoes, the Onslow half laden to Fort St. George to be finally dispatch'd from thence to Europe, the Triton for Bombay and China the Sandwich and Lord Mansfield for Bombay the Prince Edward to Fort St. George to be employed on the most necessary occasion of that settlement and the Godolphin on Freight to the Gulph of Arabia and back again and to be the early Ship next Season from hence to Europe, by thus having destin'd all the Shipping, we hope the Demur[r]age of such as remain in India will be rendered as easy as possible and the Vessels employed to the best advantage.

7. The Ship Triton for St. Helena and China imported the 25th August. She went as far as the Straights of Sunda on her intended Voyage but meeting there some Dutch Ships which gave her information of 4 French Men of War cruising about the Streights, the Captain and Officers judged the Danger too great to risk passing thro' but put back with a design of proceeding to Fort St. George and being drove so far to Leeward that she could not gain that Port. She was obliged to bear away and come down to Bengall.

8. Upon this we stationed her to proceed to Fort St. George with all her Consignments, but the Captain informing us of a Strain she had met with in her outward bound passage by which she prov'd Leaky and was in want of Repairs we alter'd her destination and sent her to Bombay where she might receive what repairs were requisite for enabling her to proceed to China, and in the mean time we took out her Cargoe and at the Captains request permitted her to come up to town to be hove down in order to stop her leaks for the present till She might receive a thorough repair.

9. Captn. Charles Berkeley Commander of the Said Ship by the Decease of Captn. Harris communicated to us the Intelligence he had received and an Account of his proceedings, Copies whereof are enclos'd in this Packet for your Perusal, and we have left it to your Honors to determine upon his conduct.

10. Before the arrival of the Lord Anson we had stationed the Sandwich and Lord Mansfield to Bombay, the last ship we put in the Lord Anson's place as the time of her arrival was uncertain and we thought it improper to wait for her.

11. Captn. Edward Lord Chick sent in a letter to the Board setting forth the bad condition of the Lord Anson and requesting to be sent round to Bombay to repair her, We delivered the letter to the Master Attendant that he might lay it before the Carpenters of the Place and consider from the circumstances therein mentioned whether she could be repaired in the river and they were of opinion she could be entirely repaired we therefore did not alter her appointment but at the Captns. request we allowed her to come up to town that he might have all possible Assistance.

12. The Ships Admiral Watson and Falmouth having arrived safe at Madrass we detained on the coast to serve as Store Ships and for the purposes of the Squadron when those are over they will be employed as well as the Prince Edward on the most necessary Services betwixt that Presidency and ours.

13. The China Ships Caernarvon, Warwick and Princess Augusta safely imported at Fort St. George and after landing their consignments sail'd from thence in September.

14. The Godolphin having been put up to Freight at publick sale, was taken up at the Sum of C Rs. 31,000 for the space of ten months from the 1st of December, at which time the term of her Voyage commenced. If she exceeds the ten months the Freighters are to pay a pro Rato Demurrage.

15. Having occasion to forward Military Stores to Fort St. George and provisions accot. the Navy we dispatched the Honble Companys Sloop, Tartar thither under the command of Captn. George Eivy for that purpose. We likewise took up the Fanny Snow at Freight allowing the owners 40 ARs. Pr. Ton in consideration of the Expense they were at in fitting her out for that Service.

16. By the best Intelligence from Batavia so late as the 18th August we were informed the French Ships under the command of Count D'Estang were then repairing there and that they intended proceeding to Bencoolen to take on board their Forces and abandon the Settlements on the West Coast.

17. In consequence of this Intelligence we determined to send the Leopard Snow to the West Coast with a few Chests of Opihum to encourage the Natives to renew the trade, and cultivate their pepper plantations. She was dispatched for Fort St. George the 20th Decr.

18. The Fort William Schooner was dispatched to Fort St. George on the 17th November with a Supply of Treasure for the Occasions of that Factory.

19. Being in want of Pilot Sloops for the Service of the Road and River as well as small vessels to dispatch with Intelligence which occasion requires, we have wrote to the President and Council at Bombay to cause to be built for our use 4 Schooners of the same Dimensions as the Diligent Schooner we Dispatch'd you in August 1757, the occasion we have lately had to send Sloops to the Coast, and there [*sic*] detention there has put us frequently under some Difficulty for the service of the River which inconvenience we hope will by this measure be in future avoided.

20. The order contained in the 24th Page of Your General Letter dated 1st April 'directing all Vessels dispatched to the West Coast to proceed directly to Fort Marlboro' we shall be carefull to observe whenever your affairs there resume their former Channel.

21. In consequence of the clause in the Charter parties of the sloops of this season we have received from the Different Captains acknowledgement of the Goods Deficient or Damag'd by their several Ships, in Triplicate, one copy whereof we enclose in this Packet and shall send the others by the respective Ships.

22. We have likewise demanded the Musquets &c. they were Indulg'd with for the procurement of provisions at Madagascar for which we have paid them the first Cost in Europe.

23. When we have Occassion [*sic*] to send any French Prisoners to Europe we shall be carefull to follow your Directions as to their names and places of their birth and usual residence, and such of our Invalids or other passengers as we permit to go, or send home we shall take acknowledgements from specifying they are passengers and have no right to pay.

24. Six passengers of the Invalid list go on the Royal Duke whom we have caused to execute instruments to that purpose and enclosed them in the packet.

25. The Victoria Snow which we had sent to the Negrais in March last returned from thence the 18th of December.

26. We have sent our Master Attendant with two Companys Sloops to Chittigong in order to Sound and Survey the Channels and passages thither, he has our directions to make a chart of the different Mouths of the Ganges & coast of Chittigong.

27. Our Deputy Master Attendant sent us in a letter enclosing protests against Captn. Alexr. McLeod [of the] Mansfield and Captn. Andrew Quicke of the Sandwich by the Pilots who had charge of their Vessels for refusing to leave the river after their Dispatches had been delivered them and taking in private goods likewise a letter from the Head pilot concerning the behaviour of those Cpts. to their pilots. Those letters and protests are entered after our Consultations to which we beg leave to refer you, We cannot however help remarking that such an unwarrantable conduct in the Commanders may sometime or other prove of the Worst Consequence to your Service by the delay, or even loss of your ships and at least deserves your highest Disapprobation, as the gentlemen have by this time left the River, we cannot hear what they have to urge in their own behalf but have wrote to the President and Council of Fort St. George with copies of the above papers from whom you will be informed of their reasons for such behaviour.

Secondly of Goods from Europe and one part of India to another

28. The Gentlemen at Fort St. George made very urgent Application to us to send them Supplies of Treasure for enabling them to carry on with Vigour the Siege of Pondicherry, the fate whereof depended in great Measure on the Assistance we should give them in that Article.

29. A point of such immediate consequence to the Interest of our Employers demanded the strictest Attention and we thought it absolutely necessary to send them the desir'd supplies, even at the risk of Diminishing this year's Investment. We accordingly sent them a Laak of Rupees in Gold by the Patty Tender and by the Fort William Schooner a Laak and a half more in gold and a Laak in silver.

30. And as the Ship Triton had lost her passage to China and the Gentlemen at Madrass were in such pressing want of money, we sent them her Consignment of Treasure twenty chests, whereof we put on board the Beneta Sloop dispatch'd to Madrass on purpose and the other twenty on the Patty tender, both of which arrived safe and prov'd very Desirable reliefs to them.

31. We have recommended to the President and Council at Bombay to send such of their ships as they are unable to Dispatch this Season for Europe to Fort St George by the beginning of May with those Articles of the produce of their Coast that will answer for the China market and we will in the mean time endeavour to supply them treasure in order to forward them thither and provide them Cargoes for Europe and the same with respect to the Triton Falmouth and Prince Edward.

32. Our mint has been the subject of our frequent Consideration having perceived great Disadvantages arising from the restraints to which it was subject by the yearly fall of Batta in the Sicca Rupees from 16 to 13 P Cent every inhabitant suffered a Tax upon whatever ready money happen'd to lie by him of 3 P Cent and this loss was felt by none but the inhabitants of Calcutta. Nor was this all the Inconvenience at, and some time before the reduction of Batta every one, in order to avoid the loss, endeavoured as much as possible to deliver away the old Siccas in payments or in Exchange for Sunnats even at a discount without which Sunnats were not procurable and those who had money to pay into the Treasury for goods purchas'd or on other accounts always paid in Calcutta Siccas and no Sunnats were received in the Treasury the want of which was both an Inconvenience in the payment of our military in Garrison (who being usually paid in that specie were discontented to receive Siccas with a deduction of Batta, by which they lost) and a loss on [of]exchange to the Company when they sent treasure to such Aurungs or Subordinates where rupees of the lowest Denomination pass equally with those of the highest. These Inconveniences added to their want of Currency in the country made the Mint rather a burthen than an advantage to the Settlement.

33. In order therefore to reduce this loss to the traders of our Settlement arising in the Calcutta Siccas we considered the properest means for their convenience and at the same time the interest of our employers and after reading all your Honors Instructions on that head and our several proceedings held on the subject we came to the final determination of re-stamping the Siccas of the Former year at the charge of one P cent and making them to their

full weight at the expense of the proprietor as is done in the mint at Muxadabad, on this subject we beg leave to refer you to Mr. Batsons Minute in our Consultation of the 30th June.

34. Notwithstanding our repeated remonstrances to the Nabob on the Subject of the Calcutta Siccas we never could get them to pass Current and our business at the Aurungs was often stopp'd by it till the Gomastahs were oblig'd to sell them at Discount and even to effect that to send them to Murshudabad to be chang'd, a boat going on that account from Maulda to Murshudabad with 4000 Calcutta Siccas was lost in the great River nor could we see any remedy to this Inconvenience altho' the Nabob gave repeated orders for their currency the Shroffs doing all in their power to prevent it as they formed their Advantage thereby. We resolv'd therefore strenuously to press the Nabob to consent to our coining Murshudabad Siccas in the Calcutta Mint as the Arcot Specie is done at Madrass, he was at first much averse to it and no doubt it was strongly opposed by Juggat seat but after much Solicitation his assent is obtained.

35. And as the want of Arcot rupees from Madrass is the cause of that specie being enhanced in this place in value to near 3 P Cent more than its sormer currency and there being several subordinates and Aurungs where Arcot rupees pass of equal Value with Sunnats or Siccas, We determin'd on coining them in our Mint and have for that purpose desired the Gentlemen at Fort St. George to send us stamps.

36. We deferr'd putting up the Mint to Contract till such time as we could obtain the Nabob's assent to our coining the Murshudabad Siccas, which having now effected we shall use our endeavours to establish the Mint on the footing directed in your Commands.

37. The Dollars shall be valued at the rate you have lay'd down but it will be impossible to contract at a Certain rate for every sort of Gold or Silver that may be delivered into the Mint. The various coins of this part of the world are innumerable besides which it frequently happens that many different sorts are melted together and delivered to be coined by the lump. We shall therefore propose the Contract on the same footing as at Madrass, that is, the Contractor shall agree to bear all the charge of the Mint excepting the House and Repairs. He shall receive a certain allowance P Cent for coinage and he that offers to do it at the least charge giving sufficient security shall have the Contract.

38. He shall deliver the exact produce of all the Gold and Silver given in to be coined according to its real Value by Assay. For which purpose we think it absolutely necessary that you send a capable Assay Master by the first opportunity, in the mean time we shall get the most able assistants we can for this service; and as every proprietor of Bullion may have an opportunity of getting his Gold or Silver tried in the place we think there is no great room for Injury to be offered.

39. The accounts sent you home last year of the Weight and fineness of the Gold and Silver Rupees were so full, that nothing remains to be said on that Head.

40. You will observe by our Consultations the sales of our imports, proper accounts of which are enter'd at large.

41. The troubles under which the province of Patna as well as this part of the Country have for some time Laboured by the invasion of the Shazaddah and irruption of the Mahrattas have been extremely detrimental to the State of all our Imports, as an instance whereof we need only mention a few lots of woolen goods and Copper sold at the sales of 2nd July 1759 which was not cleared out by the first purchasers, but resold on the 23rd September last and there arose a very considerable deficiency as will appear in the Account sales entered in our consultations.

42. We delivered to the import warehouse keeper the sample of Cornish Tin sent us out this Season, which we laid before the Merchants of the place. Upon examination it was found Inferior to the Eastern Tin both in quality and convenience of being work'd, and that it would bring no more than CRs 18-8 P Factory Maund whilst that from the Eastward is sold for CR 20.

43. The copper consigned us on the Sandwich we have sent round to Bombay in the same vessel as there is a very considerable quantity of that article now in the place and but very little demand for it.

44. We directed the Surgeons to examine into the qualities of the Medicines sent out this season as distinguished in the 61 parh. of your General Letter of the 1st April and were informed they are all so equally good, that they cannot justly give the preference to any and that all were far superior to what used formerly to be sent, they therefore leave it entirely to Your Honor's Determination which to pitch upon for our future supply.

45. Three chests of Medicines marked No. 2, 3 and 4 Fort William not agreeing with the Invoice we attribute it to a mistake of the markers by putting the mark of our Settlement upon what was intended for Fort St. George we have therefore sent the Gentlemen of that Presidency a list of the contents of those three chests in order to rectify the mistake.

46. The want of a Madeira Ship this season lays us under a very great Inconvenience which is particularly felt by the gentlemen of the army whose fatigues require that they should be indulged with every refreshment that can be afforded for their relief, We therefore for their sakes as well as for your servants in general request you will continue to supply this settlement by an annual Ship from Madeira.

47. The Falmouth being detained at Fort St George the gentlemen there sent us down her Consignments for our Presidency on the ships Prince Edward, Sandwich, Latham and Lord Anson, the Leopard Snow and the Benala Sloop keeping a small part for which they had occasion they informed us:

that upon weighing the copper it turned out heavier than was specified in the London Invoice this day [they] attributed to a deficiency in their weights, on our weighing it again here we found a deficiency from the Fort St. George Invoice from which it seems probable that was the true reason, 300 Barrels of gunpowder and some part of the stores Military and Naval intended for our Presidency on the Ships for this season have been detained at Madrass and we have received a few shot and shells of their Consignment which could not be easily come at and were proffer'd to remain on board by the gentlemen there at the request of the several Captains. For the first we have debited their Presidency and given them credit for the last.

48. We sent to the President and Council at Fort St George a few bales of Broad Cloth at their request on account of the Military they having been disappointed in the cloathing they wrote for to Europe by the miscarriage of their Indents by the Grantham.

49. The cloathing for our Officers of the Infantry and Artillery we have recd. from the Ships Latham and Lord Anson and we shall be careful to observe your Directions relating thereto.

50. Upon examining the import warehouse Books, we find no Cloathing landed from the Elizabeth for the use of Captain Campbells Company of Royall Artillery at Fort St. George we received two Casks from Captn. Burdett one of Clogs and another of Shoes and some hats of which no mention has ever been made in your Instructions to us.

51. Upon taking into consideration the 60th Parh of your General Letter of the 1st April prohibiting a private trade in Opium to the West Coast of Summatra, we were of Opinion that any restraints upon the Trade thither at this time would be detrimental to the Company's Interest as it would prevent the giving an Encouragement to the Natives to cultivate their pepper plantations by a neglect of which they might Suffer their Plants to go to ruin and the produce of that Commodity would be hurt for some Years. We rather think at this juncture it would be proper to Encourage those that are willing to run the risk of keeping up that Trade till such time as the West Coast is again in possession and your Settlements re-established.

52. In the mean time in obedience to your Commands we have sent 50 Chests of Ophium on the Leopard Snow to the West Coast on account of the Company, which we hope will be a means of Encouraging the Planters and securing a Quantity of Pepper for the China Ships of next season.

53. The Gentlemen of Bombay sent us on the Godolphin three hundred bales of Cotton which were safely landed and put up to Publick Sale. The account Sales is entered after our consultation of the 21st August and we hope will prove satisfactory.

54. A Chest of Treasure mark †B No. 5 having been landed from the Prince George lay in the Warehouse sometime without being claimed and we

were Ignorant to whom it belong'd but the Commissary of Stores at Fort St. George informing our Secretary by letter that it was designed for the pay of the King's Artillery at that place we sent it down on the Ship Duke at that time proceeding thither.

55. Upon enquiry we find the Money sent to Fort St. George on the Boscawen, Grantham and Fox which turn'd out somewhat Deficient was pack'd up by Mr. Charles O'Hara then Sub-Treasurer, that Gentleman being since dead prevents our further Enquiry, but we shall be carefull in future to suffer no such Neglect.

56. The President laid before the Board a letter he had recd. from the Secret Committee in England directing him to cause a strict Search to be made for contraband trade supposed to be on the Royall Duke, Captn. Pigou. In consequence of which the most proper Measures have been privately taken for discovering wether such Goods had been Imported both by narrowly watching the Ship, searching the Boats that came from her and observing what was carried to, or from his house, and after all the Enquiry possible. We do not see any reason to believe Captn. Pigou guilty of the breach of Duty of which he was suspected, especially as we have been inform'd his Ship was search'd at St. Helena in consequence of the Secret Committee's Directions to the Governor there, the account of Goods landed from that ship is enter'd after our Consultation of the 4th of Decr.

Thirdly of Investments

57. The necessary Advances of Treasure we have made to the Gentlemen at Fort St. George have greatly diminished our Investment of the Season but we hope what is wanting in the Quantity will be greatly made up by the Quality, as the smallness of our purchases has given us an opportunity of making a choice of our Sortments.

58. We shall send you this season in all about 3300 Bales of Cloth, of which 980 are laden on the Royall Duke now under Dispatch.

59. We beg leave to refer you to our Books of Letters for the particulars of our Subordinate Correspondence, the Abstracts of our Aurung accounts will inform you of the Sums transmitted our Gomastahs for the purchase of Cloth.

60. The Gentlemen at Madras informing us they had only 300 bales of Cloth for the Oaslow, we laded on that ship 500 bales and thereupon increased an Investment by advancing 150,000 Rs. to the Aurungs, and some of our Gomastahs having offers of ready money Goods at a small advance of the Aurungs Prince [price] we chose to accept of them as the purchase of cloth by advancing putten might prove too dilatory for this Years Shipping.

61. The troubles that have long infested the province of Patna and the heavy rains have greatly retarded our purchases of Salt Petre, Our provision of that Article amounts to 60,000 Maunds.

62. On the Triton, Lord Mansfield and Sandwich we have sent round to the gentlemen of Bombay 18,000 Maunds of Petre and to Fort St. George on the Onslow 7,500 Maunds we shall likewise send thither on the Prince Edward 3,000 Maunds of which 2,400 is for the Admiral Watson and the rest for the use of their Presidency. We have laden on the Royall Duke 7,500 Maunds and shall put the same Quantity on board the Latham and Lord Anson.

63. The lateness of the season would not admit of our refining the Petre of this years produce as you have directed; we therefore laded it on the Ships as usual; but in future it shall be purified at Patna for which purpose we have given orders to make the necessary Apparatus and sent up all Coppers we had in our Warehouse.

64. With respect to the Purnea Petre the President when he was at Murshadabad spoke to the Nabob on the subject and was promised that the Company should have the whole Quantity produc'd in that Province but mentioned at the same time that he believ'd there was only sufficient made for the use of the Government.

65. However as we are well inform'd great Quantities of Salt Petre are brought out of the Purnea country your Honors may depend on our endeavours to procure a large proportion of it, For that purpose the President left instructions with Mr. Batson Chief at Cossimbuzar to endeavour to contract with the Nabob or Naib of that Province for as much as he could, and in this we shall be as Assistant [insistent?] as possible.

66. We have taken care to prevent the Dutch from procuring any Petre at Patna and the Quantity we have spared them this Season does not exceed 7750 Maunds we have promised them four thousand Maunds more out of the other expected Fleet from Patna, thus much we thought reasonable and prudent, to avoid giving them too great occasion of complaint. This supply enables them to provide but very scantily for their Ships bound to Europe, and we believe therefore their supplying the French with that Article will be prevented.

67. Mr. Richard Wilder at Cossimbuzar has made great Improvement in the winding his raw silk, as Your Honors will observe by some samples of long skaind putney sent by the Royall Duke for your Inspection.

Fourthly of the Trade of India and Transactions with the European Powers and Country Government

68. The Term for which the Tuncaws had been granted to the Company (as you have been already inform'd) Expir'd in the Month of March last, and the Nabob instantly demanded the restoration of the lands. The ballance at this time was very considerable wether owing to the Marhattas and the other Armies which the last year had infested the Province, or to the Knavery of the Zemidars whose interest it was to keep those countries as long

as they could in the hands of the Company. It is certain that the Nabob had a very just right to insist upon our restoring the lands upon his giving such a security as should be deem'd reasonable for the remainder of the 44 Tuncaws, as they had been granted to the Company only for a limited time, some months however had Elapsed and the land still continued in our possession as we could not consent to part with them whilst so large an arrears was due to the Company; which gave rise to a suspicion that it was our Intention never to give them up again. The Nabob himself shew'd that he entertain'd the same apprehensions. At length in the month of August he sent the Roy-royan an Officer of Consequence to Calcutta with powers to treat with us upon this Affair; and earnestly solicited through his means the restitution of those Countries. After many Debates with him upon the subject it was at length agreed that the lands should be given up to the Nabob upon Condition of his paying 8 Laaks of Rupees in ready Money and a pledge of Jewells for the remainder, which was to be redeemed by stated Monthly payments till the whole amount was discharg'd in the following manner, viz.

In Cautic or	October	.	.	.	200,000
Aghun ...	November	.	.	.	200,000
Poos ...	December	.	.	.	200,000
Maug ...	January	.	.	.	150,000
Phagun ...	February	.	.	.	150,000
Cheit ...	March	.	.	.	100,000
Bysaac ...	April	.	.	.	100,000
Jeit ...	May	.	.	.	100,000
Assar ...	June	.	.	.	100,000
Sawn ...	July	.	.	.	150,000
Bhadun ...	August	.	.	.	157,512-4-8

Sicca Rs. 16,07,512-4-8

69. The possession of these Countrys had been the principal source of the disputes between the Nabob and the Company from the first Grant of the Assignment which was one inducement to us to Comply with the above terms. But another more weighty consideration inclin'd us to take this Resolution. We had hitherto depended on the Nabob for the stipulated Monthly Payment of a Laak of Rupees for the charges of our forces engaged in his service, a sum not only insufficient for the purpose for which it was assigned, but never regularly paid. Our troops at Patna were reduced on this account to great Distress and our difficulties here for want of Money were not less severe. Far from being able to supply the necessities of Fort St. George we were obliged to put a stop to our own Investment, and scarcely could provide for the pay of the Troops, and the other Indispensible charges of the Settlement. Things could not remain in this State. Means must be sought of procuring for the Company larger and more certain Funds, and this could only be done by having Countries ceded to them. Burdwan one of the richest Zemidarrees of Bengall and of all the most convenient by its Situation was consequently that which we most wished to obtain, and in this view it seemed much for

the Company's Advantage to have it disencumber'd from old Debts, the which being transferr'd upon the Nabob to be made good by the sale of Jewells or from his own revenues instead of remaining upon a country we hoped to acquire for the Company would be in Effect so much saved or Gained to the Company; and the consequences have proved the Justice of these Considerations, the countries ceded to us being free from all Incumbrances and the Nabob personally answerable for the ballance of old accounts.

70. But how expedient soever this Agreement might be for us still as the proposal came from the Nabob and our acquiescence had been Importunately requested as the means of relieving him from his distress, and giving him a Credit with his own people we hop'd the readiness with which he had accepted the other Security he offer'd in lieu of the Tuncaws would have encreased his confidence in us, and made him the more Inclined to grant any Requests which we might have occasion to make in Behalf of the Company.

71. In this expectation and encouraged by the Assurances of the Roy-royan, the President wrote to the Nabob, desiring a Grant of the Country of Chittigong to the Company on condition of their paying to the customary rents to the Sircar, and the farm of Chunam at Sillet for the use of our new Works which had received great Interruption from the want of that article. How little reason soever we had to depend upon the Nabob's Gratitude, it proved no small Mortification to us to receive not only a peremtory refusal to these requests but a Declaration from him at the same time that he would not allow the Company to have any Trade at Chittigong, to which our ancient Phirmauns and his own Perwannah gave us an Indisputable Right, this refusal and the remarkable Opposition which the Nabob continually shew'd to ev'ry Measure proposed for the advantage of the Company, We could not but attribute entirely to the bad Counsels of his Ministers, who saw with an evil eye the Influence of the Company, and readily snatch'd at every occasion which might reduce it. To the same cause was owing the distressed State of the Nabob's affairs which his weakness and indolence left entirely to their Management. He had been beset by his Seepoys at Murshudabad for want of their pay and in eminent [*sic*] Danger of losing his life by their Tumults. As he had not the power of satisfying them ev'ry day might be expected to bring on a renewal of the same disturbances and that not only the Nabob would be sacrificed to their discontents but the City be given to plunder. It was therefore equally necessary for the security of the Nabob's Person and Government and for maintaining the Companys influence, to set up some Power in opposition to the Ministers then in Employ or to effect their Removal Altogether. Happily an Occasion soon offered itself to put in practice this Determination and to secure the rights of the Company and advance their Interests and this without giving the Nabob any just cause of uneasiness.

72. We must premise that a most melancholy Accident gave room for the projected Reformation by the death of the Chuta Nabob who was destroy'd by Lightning a little before the Conclusion of the last Campaign.

This Disaster as it left a great Vacancy in the Administration in which the young Nabob had a principal Share so it served to Manifest to the World the Nabob's weakness and Incapacity which have hitherto appeared the less conspicuous whilst the weight of the public affairs was supported by his Son. The Nabob having no other Legitimate Son and his Natural Children being all too tender an Age to be entrusted with the Charge of the Government in so dangerous a juncture, the Succession naturally devolved to his Son in Law Cossim Ally Cawn, a young man very much respected by the then President and Select Committee who had had occasion to remark his great Attachment to the Company and the weight which he had among the principal men in the Province. The jealousy which had been instilled into the Nabob by the people about him against Cossim Ally Cawn, and his irresolute behaviour in regard to the appointment of a Successor to his deceas'd Son, induced Cossim Ally Cawn to solicit the Interest of the President on his behalf; which in consideration of the Necessity of the Public Affairs and the advantages that would accrue to the Company from their support of a man in a Station of that consequence, it was agreed to give him with such an additional power as should enable him to over rule the Men who had long misguided the Nabob, and to bestow upon the Company some Advantages in return for their protection. In the month of September he came down on a Visit to Calcutta and agreeable to the Resolution above mention'd a Treaty was made and ratified with him, a copy of which is enclosed. The countries therein stipulated were computed to produce an annual revenue of fifty Laaks. At present they can hardly yield that amount, but in a time of Peace and under proper regulations we have hopes that they will exceed it.

73. The country of Burdwan (as we have already mentioned) was our first and principal object as it lies contiguous to Calcutta, is one of the most considerable Zemidarrees in the province and the Rajah or his people incapable of giving us any Obstructions in the Collection of their Rents.

74. Midnapoor joins to Burdwan and lies on the borders of the province of Cuttac. The Town of Midnapoor is defended by a Fort, which though constructed after the manner of the Country yet may be made very usefull in preventing the Inroads of the Marhattas who have no other entrance into Bengall from the Southward but through this Country.

75. The trade of Chittigong has been so long an object of the Companys wishes that We shall not need to say anything concerning the advantages of this acquisition which it shall be our great aim to render by every Improvement it is capable of equal to the hopes which have been conceived of it.

76. When everything was agreed upon with Cossim Ally Cawn he returned to the City and was followed a few days after by the President who by his presence and by laying before the Nabob a fair representation of the necessity of the public affairs, it was hoped might prevail upon them to give his voluntary consent to the regulations already resolved upon; and in case of his refusal it was determined that such a degree of Force should be used as might

intimidate him to a Compliance. Severe as this measure may appear it was the only resource we had left, and the only one that could preserve both the Nabob and ourselves from greater difficulties, which must quickly have grown into a dangerous extremity. Sensible as he was of the truth[...] of those representations laid before him by the President he had not the power to shake off the absolute rule which a few ill-designing Men had over him and he chose rather to fall with them than to retain his dignity without them. The Particulars of this transaction are fully set forth in the following Papers in the packet, to which we beg leave to refer you.

77. No. 1. Treaty made with Cossim Ally Cawn the 25th September.

No. 2. Letter from the Governor and Coll. Caillaud to the Select Committee dated at Moraudbaug the 21st October containing a detail of their proceedings in consequence of the said Treaty and a particular account of the manner of the O'd Nabob Jaffer Ally Cawn resigning the Subaship and of the Appointment of Cossim Ally Cawn.

No. 3. Letter from the Governor and Coll. Caillaud to the Select Committee dated at Moraudbaug the 3rd November, containing a general account of the difficulties subsisting in the Army at Patna of the provision made for their immediate Supply and of the measures intended to be pursued there.

No. 4. Letter from the Governor to the Select Committee dated at Cossimbuzar the 3rd November with the copy of an address he presented to the New Nabob at taking leave.

No. 5. A memorial shewing the necessity of the resolutions taken with respect to the state of the country abstracted from all the advantage stipulated for the Company. It contains also a narrative of all that passed the same as the letter No. 2 being intended for a publick account and Justification of the whole proceeding.

78. Before this Revolution happened the eight Laaks of ready Money were paid into the Treasury and the old Nabob had delivered to the Chief and Council at Cossimbuzar three chests of Jewells valued by him at Twelve and a half Laaks of Rupees. These yet remain at Cossimbuzar and have not been opened or offered to sale but We imagine if they were to be put up at outcry they would not produce more than half what they were valued at by the Nabob. These Jewells are the only real security now in our hands for the ballance of 1607,512-4-8 outstanding upon the former Treaty. But the present Nabobs acceptance of the obligation executed by the old Nabob for the discharge thereof, according to the several Monthly Payments before mentioned renders him personally answerable; and there is no doubt of its being fully paid if the power we now have over him and the Affairs of the province in general, is maintained, for the sum is not large compared with the resources of the Subaship. If we have not been so pressing for the payment of the two first proportions already due, as well as for the five Laaks he promised as a present to the Company it is consideration of the great difficulties which we know he has

besides which the Nabob has paid Major York for the Charge	
of the detachment under his Command	50,000
and the Fougedar of Hougly is to pay into the Treasury here .	20,000
	<hr/>
	627,000

which compleats the payment of all the sums for which he is Answerable excepting the balance of 16,07,512-4-8 to be paid in Monthly proportions as before particularized and towards the discharge of which He has desired that the Jewells now at Cossimbuzar may be sold.

85. The Dutch having involved themselves in fresh disputes with the Country Government both parties requested we would intervene as Mediators and we accordingly brought them to an accomodation by a Treaty of which a copy is sent in the packet.

86. The Negotiation previous to this Treaty, as well as the Detail of the War with the Shazadda and Marhattas will be particularly communicated in a separate address from the Select Committee here to the Secret Committee. We have only to add on this Subject that it is greatly to be lamented the desired tranquility is not restored to the Country as both the sales and investment have suffered much by the Continuance of the Troubles.

87. By the advices brought from Pigu by the Victoria Snow we find the King of Burmars by whose orders the settlement of Negrais was cut off, is since dead, his son who reigns in his stead, received the Commander of the Snow in a friendly Manner and permitted him to carry away the English who had been detained prisoners, except two who remained at the Kings desire and their own Consent to take care of the Timbers belonging to the Company. The Victoria brought away as many of the Timbers as she could hold and the King desired she might return to carry off the rest. In general the King makes us offers of Friendship but the Country is so much in troubles that we shall only bring away what remains of the Companys property and we shall not think of establishing a Settlement.

Fifthly of Fortifications, Buildings & Revenues

88. We are much concerned to have occasion to acquaint you of great Frauds committed in carrying on the new Works by a combination of those who were employed upon them. Mr. Holwell then Governor having received Hints of illegal practices committed by those Persons, try'd to discover to what length and by whom they had been carried on, and at last by the Confession of Gobindram Tacoor it was found that the sum of 344,565-4 had been shared by Different Servants employed on the works, besides the sum of 99484 which Captain Jno. Brohier acknowledged in his Letter of the 25th June to have come to the share of those immediately under him, and this he Attributed to his want of Caution over them, owing to a long Illness but we have some reason to believe from his Conduct the above Sum was his own proportion of the Gains, the whole progress of this inquiry will appear

more particularly in a separate Book of Consultation held on the Subject commencing the 21st April and ending 14th July.

89. In the Account Particulars of the above sum of 344565-4 entered after the Consultation of the 26th of June we find there appears a sum 61609-8-10, charged to the Account of Bulleram Muckurjee and Rangerind Ray but which upon Examination was found to have been Embezzled by Mr. John Louis, who had been for some time employ'd as an Assistant Engineer. He absconded upon this Fraud coming to Light and notwithstanding the most diligent Search we could get no account of him either here or at the other Settlement.

90. In the same Account the Sum of 31639-11-6 has proved to have been taken by Louis da Costa a Portuguese Writer employ'd on the Works This man absconded before the Enquiry took place and has never since made his Appearance here, and concerning him we also have wrote to the other settlements to apprehend him whenever he is discovered.

91. For the remainder of the said sum of 344565-4, Securities were taken from the Banyans therein mentioned, to refund the Money at Stipulated Payments. A considerable Part has been already received as you will observe in our Treasury Books p'aced under the head of over charges in the new Works.

92. The sum of 23219-10-2, put to the account of Anunderam Doss in the 2nd Article of the account Beforementioned appearing upon enquiry as Pr. Consultation of the 11th July 1760 to be a part of what Captn. Brohier acknowledges in his Letter, the said Sum therefore deducted, for the remainder, being 76264-5-10 Captn. Brohier in his Letter of 17th July entered after that days Consultation, Offered sundry Effects amounting to 29814-10-6

also Mr. Carvalho's security bond	19449-11-4
a bill of Exchange on Mr. Jno Call	
at Fort St. George for	7,000
and his own bond payable in 2 years	20,000

76264-5-10

93. Mr. Brohier upon the first discovery of his Malpractices was put under Arrest, from which a few days after he was released on his Parole, and upon the Securities beforementioned being accepted, his Parole was delivered up to him. But the use he made of this Indulgence will stand as a Proof of his guilt, For in the Night between the 29th and 30th of July he also absconded and has evaded all our searches, notwithstanding Letters were immediately sent to all the Chiefs of the Country around to seize and return him to Calcutta whenever he appeared.

94. Mr. Carvalho has paid part of what he became Security for and there is on manner of doubt of the ballance in his hands. The bill on Mr. Call has

been forwarded to Madras from whence we have as Yet had no answer. We proceeded against him in the Mayors Court for the amount of his Bond and had Judgment passed thereon; an Attested Copy of his Bond and the Judgment is forwarded in the Packett, that you may come upon him if he appears in Europe or his Effects should any be discovered.

95. The works since Mr. Brohiers disgrace have been put under the care of Mr. Thomas Amphlett whose diligence deserves to be commended; For a more particular Account of the Fortifications with respect to what has been done and what remains unfinished, we must refer you to his in the packett, as well as his letter to us dated the 18th October and entered after our Consultation of the 20th. It is with pleasure we have to acquaint you the Body of the place is almost compleated excepting the Gateways which are the business now in hand. These with a sufficient number of Magazines for ammunition and provision and Barracks for the men will render the place defensible We shall therefore use all the possible means for forwarding the Work to have it Finished during this dry season as We think the Companys present possessions in this Kingdom will merit a strong capital for their security and that this Fort heavy as the Expense has been is not too extensive for the acquisitions now enjoy'd which will afford to maintain proportionable Garrison.

96. It has been found for the two last rainy Seasons that the River has made some Approaches towards the new Fort, to prevent this danger affecting the works we have directed all the stone ballast we can get with a Quantity of Bricks and Rubbish to be thrown down, which we hope will in a short time form a Bank affording sufficient security against its incroachments.

97. The House formerly purchased for a Sea Custom House is mentioned in the 69 Paragraph of an Address of the 29th Decr. 1759 suffering much by the last rains, and it being calculated the necessary repairs would amount to more than the building deserved we thought it more for the Companys Interest to dispose of it. We accordingly put it up to outcry and sold it for CRs. 8051, and in place of it we hired the House belonging to Huzrumull, which Colonel Clive possessed, as it answers in all respects for the Custom House.

98. The House purchased of Mr. Carvalho being the most convenient for the Governor, Mr. Van Sittart now posses[s]es it and there being great occasion for a House for the commanding Officer of our Troops in Bengall near the Fort and Barracks we purchased that belonging to Mr. Holmes as being extreamly proper for that purpose for CRs. 20,000 the lowest price stipulated by that Gentleman to his Attorneys in Bengall.

99. And there being a Garden House belonging to Mr. Frankland extreamly convenient for the Refreshment of the Governor when the Multiplicity of his business will permit Him to leave the Town we have thought it far from a superfluous charge to procure it on that account for the sum of Rs. 10,000.

100. The Term for which the new Lands were let from May 1759 not being yet expired, no alterations have been yet made on the Rents except that the Measurement has been continued. In the 76 Par. of our Address of the 29th Decr. 1759 you were advised of a Gain of 72240 Bigas in 6 Pergunnahs, since then, we have measured two Pergunnahs more and find an Increase of Bigas: Begaha 54213, cottahs 10.

101. Of the Revenues of your late Valuable acquisitions of Burdawan Midnapoor and Chittigong we can give you but an uncertain statement. The Burdwan Rajah persuaded by the reports of some ill-designing persons round him that it was our design to turn him out from his Zemidarry seem'd inclined to take the part of the disaffected Rajahs. How expedient soever it may be hereafter to have an exact Measurement of that extensive province and to divide it out into small parcels yet it was by no means our present Intention being unwilling to give the Rajah any reason to take part with the enemies of the Government at a time when the Country was already full of Commotions, we endeavour'd therefore by all possible means to assure him of our Intentions to continue him in the Zemidarry with which appearing satisfied he sent one of his principal officers to settle a Kistbunda or stipulation of payment for the remainder of the present Bengall year ending the 10th April the whole amount of the said Kistbunda was Sicca Rupees 1035284-4-10 as is enter'd at large in our Consultation of the 18th December.

102. These terms we were sensible were much below the real value of the Lands and much to the Rajah's advantage but in consideration of the present want of money here and at Fort St. George and for other reasons more particularly mentioned in the said Consultation we thought it prudent to accept of them and serve to a future opportunity the Establishing such regulations as might seem more beneficial to the Company. But it is now again doubtful whether even these Payments will be made according to Agreement for the Rajah under pretence of being obedient seems to have carried on a private correspondence with the other disaffected Rajahs and it is fortunate we have had so Early an Opportunity of putting him to the Proof.

103. A detachment which was sent to take possession of Midnapoor under command of Captn. Martin White, was ordered that service performed, to march to join Major Yorke, who is proceeding in conjunction with the Nabob against the Bierboon Rajah¹. The road from Midnapoor to the place where the two parties were to join, happens to lie through the town of Burdawan Captn. White had the most positive orders to regard the country as a possession of the Companys and the Rajah as their friend, which Orders he strictly adhered to, but the Rajah who no doubt had designed to prevent the junction of our Troops opposed with all his Force the passage of our Detachment over a river near Burdawan; Captn. White deferr'd as long as possible the coming to extremities but when he found himself obliged to it, it did not cost much time to give the Rajahs Forces a total defeat. They dispersed abandoning the Town and Captn. White proceeded on quickly to his place of destination. We have had no advices From the Rajah since and doubt not

this accident will have a good effect and it certainly gives us a very just reason for putting the Zemidarry upon what footing we think the most convenient and such measures we shall take when Circumstances will admit of it.

104. Of the Country of Midnapoor our Troops took Quiet Possession but this District consisting of a number of Zamidarries the regular Payment of its revenue as entered in the Books of the Government amounting to Rs. 530063-2-4 as Pr. No. 43 in the Packett but we look upon this as a very uncertain Computation and hope to be better informed from Mr. John Johnstone who is sent to Midnapoor for that purpose.

105. We have got a like account of Chittigong revenues amounting to Rs. 504148-6-6 as Pr.No. 44 Mr. Verelst is gone thither with the other Gentlemen as mentioned under the 6th Head of Servants and we hope soon to receive a satisfactory account of their enquiries & Regulations.

106. Upon the whole as we are very sensible of the value of these acquisitions so shall we not be wanting to put them on the most advantageous Footing.

107. The Gathering in the revennues was lodged in the Hands of one of the Members of Council under the title of Collector who has regularly accounted for all the Rents and revennues whilst that method subsisted and since the receipt of your Commands of this season dated the 1st April we have according to the regulations contained in the 96 and 97 Paragraphs formed a Committee of New Lands consisting of three Members of the Board and two Junior Servants, with an Accomptant and Secretary for the greater Regularity in carrying on the business of their office. They will keep separate Books and annually transmit you their proceedings.

108. In our Letter of the 29th Decemr. Pr. Calcutta and Hardwicke we gave you a full Account of the Duties we collect on all Imports and the Methods you point for the Sea Custom Master's Direction are now fully complied with.

109. The customs formerly levied on Necessarys and Provisions brought to Town by Land have been for many good reasons abolished, as entered in the face of our Consultation of the 4th September and it gives us pleasure to find this step entirely concurs with your sentiments on this subject mentioned in Paragraph 100.

110. The observations concerning the Priviledge of Dustucks contained in the 101 and 102 Paragraphs of Your Commands dated the 1st April 1760 have been considered with that attention which so earnest an injunction from your Honors, ought and always will excite in us. We beg leave to assure you that we have considered it with Minds free from any View to our own private Interests, and that if the Regulation proposed by your Honors, or any other that we could imagine, or have been informed of had appeared

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capable of putting Trade upon a better footing for all Traders in general without prejudicing the Companys Investment we would most readily have endeavoured to obtain the Nabob's consent.

111. Your Honors perhaps have not been sufficiently informed of the Difficulty that is continually met with at most of the Subordinate Settlements and Aurungs in procuring a Sufficiency of Cloths for the Companys Investment—it would indeed be absolutely impossible ever to fulfil your Orders were there not many Restrictions in favor of the Company. At the Subordinates the Gentlemen in the service are forbid to make any purchases for themselves untill the Quantity required for the Company is secured. The gentlemen at Calcutta are not permitted to send Gomastahs to purchase at the Aurungs dependent on any of the Subordinates, nor the Gentlemen of one Subordinate to make purchases at another. It is the same with the Out Aurungs dependent on Calcutta. None of the Gentlemen in the Company's Service are permitted to send Gomastahs to any place where there is a Gomastahs [*sic*] purchasing Goods for Company, without giving Notice to the Committee of Aurungs and getting a letter from them to the Companys Gomastah who is to take care that he does not interfere in any thing prejudicial to the Companys Investment. These restrictions are calculated to keep the Weavers confined as much as possible to the Companys Sortments which we believe would fall extremely Short as well as grow continually dearer if the free Merchants had the privilege of the Dustuck equally with the Companys Servant. The great number of purchasers at the Aurungs must of course make the price of Labour rise, purchasers also who would not willingly submit to any Regulations we might make, nor think it just that any preference should be given to the Company. The trade would suffer so much by the Number of competitors that we think the Effect of such a change would be very different from what your Honors' propose, and that instead of being a relief to Trade it would be a great hurt to the Merchants in General and to the Interests of the Company in particular.

112. We flatter ourselves that your Honors will for the reasons before mentioned approve of our not endeavouring to obtain from the Nabob his acceptance of a certain yearly Sum to be paid by the Company in lieu of the Duties now collected by the Government from the Merchants of Calcutta, so that all without Exception might have the Privilege of Dustacks. But we believe that if we had found it to be consistent with the Company's Interest to put the Trade upon that footing the Nabob's assent could not have been obtained. The President when at Murshudabad asked him whether such a proposal would be agreeable, but far from Approving he seem'd much alarmed sensible of the great Detriment it would be to the Revenues of Hougly which are made up chiefly of the Customs upon Goods going to and from Calcutta.

113. The sum to be paid the Nabob in lieu thereof, in case such an Agreement had taken place would have been so considerable that the Dustuck

Duty to be levied here for the Company's Reimbursement must have been a very heavy addition to your other Customs, nor is to be doubted but those Merchants who Complain now of the preference given to the Company's Servant in respect of Dustucks would have complained yet louder of this additional Duty.

114. Those gentlemen who have signed the Letter refer'd to by your Honors have for the most part not the least reason to complain of unreasonable dealings in the Company's Servants. Some of them who have employ'd Company's Servants to provide their Goods have had them at very Moderate rates but in General they have been unwilling to make any contracts and have chosen rather to take the Chance of the Market which has proved sometimes favourable to the Seller, sometimes to the Buyer. At this time goods made at Cossimbuzar yield little or no profit here, while Goods made at Dacca and Luckipore will yield twenty, twenty five or thirty P Cent and these last five or six Years ago, were so extremely low here that several of the Gentlemen of the Dacca Factory suffer'd much in their fortunes by providing them as they could not get their prime Cost. This risque the Company's Servant runs it is the fair Chance of an Open Market which the free Merchants for the most part as we have before observed, prefer to contracts and they have no more right to Complain when the Price in the Market happens to be high than the Seller has when it happens to be Low. When they themselves bring goods to sell from Foreign Markets they are not wanting in their Endeavours to sell them for as high a price as they can.

115. Such therefore have no Just reason of Complaint as they have not contracted or endeavoured to contract with Companys Servants—But there are some who we understand have had sufficient Grounds for Complaint—we mean those who formerly had concerns under the Governor and Council in the Freight Ships in which we have been informed it was a Practice for each Gentleman of the Council to load his own proportion in Goods, and these Goods every one charged at what price he thought proper. The Captain and Supercargo, depending on the Governor and Council to provide the Goods were oblig'd to take their Concern in a Cargo made up after that Manner and no wonder the Voyages turned out extremely ill, an unreasonable Profit having been made on the Goods before they left the Port.

116. But we beg leave to assure your Honors that the Gentlemen now concerned jointly with us receive a very different Treatment. Such goods as are bought at the Market here, not having been contracted for before, are bought on the best Terms possible by Managers appointed out of the concern'd and no profit of any sort charg'd upon them here. Such Goods as are provided from the Aurungs by ourselves, or by contract with the Gentlemen as the Subordinates are delivered at so moderate a premium as barely to answer the Interest and risque of Providing them with a small consideration for the Time and charges sav'd by means of the Dustuck, an advantage which was undoubtedly Intended to be reserved to the Companys Servants when the Indulgence of the Dustuck was granted them. The

Calculation of the Advance proposed to be put upon the Goods provided at the Several Subordinates and Aurungs in proportion to the Distance and the Risque is enter'd on the Minutes of Consultation of 24th November to which we beg leave to refer you.

117. That the abuse of this indulgence was formerly too common a practice we have reason to think is but a Just Reproach But we are equally convinced that no such practice has been followed since the attention given to this Matter last Year, and the oath prescrib'd to be taken by all who have the benefit of this Priviledge. We doubt not but this Solemn Tye added to the regard which the Gentlemen in your service have for their own Reputation, will be sufficient to make them abhor so Dishonourable a practice. If any there be, who strangers to these Sentiments shall venture to abuse an indulgence for which they ought to be thankful, we shall hold them unworthy of your Service and make a severe Example of all who shall be discovered. The President will be particularly Observant of the Applications made to him for Dustacks and he has already recommended to the Nabob to cause all his Guards at the several Chowkeys or watching places upon the river to be more strict in the examination of Boats and to seize all who shall be found with English Colours without a Dustack; this is an imposition often practised by Portuguese, Armenians, and the Country people to defraud the Government of their customs and through the Indolence or knavery of Chowkeys has doubtless succeeded very frequently and been the cause in great Measure of the Complaints that have been put undeservedly to the Account of the Gentlemen here.

118. We shall leave this subject with assuring you that we shall acquiesce without murmuring in the loss of the advantage of the Dustuck if your Honors after considering all that we have taken the Liberty to say, shall continue to think such an alteration would be for the benefit of Trade in General and consistent with the Company's Interest. At the same time we cannot help giving it as our Opinion that the Company's Servant has a very reasonable Pretension to some indulgence in matters of Trade over the Free merchant considering that the Latter has his whole time to apply to Management of his private Concerns while the Former is employed for the most part in attending his Duty to the Company.

119. The Consigners of Coral to this Place have not, at least for some time past paid any Consulage to the Governor; but Mr. Van Sittart observing that the Tenor of the Bonds given by the Consigners to the Company is the same here as at Fort St. George where the Governor receives on all Consignments of Coral and Silver a Consulage of 2 P Cent, thinks he should receive the same here, but will not make a demand of it until he receives your Answer, and has desired therefore that it may be mentioned to your Honors in order to be regulated according to your Pleasure.

120. We have paid a due obedience to your 123rd Paragraph directing a duty of twenty P Cent to be levied on Foreign Broad cloth, Perhaps, Long Ells or other Woolen goods imported here more through compliance with your Order than a Belief that we shall ever have an Opportunity to buy it.

121. Some time last Year the Arrack Farm was abolished with a view of Preventing the too great Sale of that Spirit amongst the Military but upon finding it had not the desired Effect, for when the privilege of vending that Article was taken out of the Hands of the Farmer, a number of small Distilleries were set up and the sale increased, we again resolved to let it out to Farm under such Regularities as would Effectually prevent abuses being committed by an immoderate Sale thereof. Those Regulations are entered after the Consultation of the 7th August, it has been twice advertized but no one has yet Offer'd to engage in it.

122. We have mentioned in the 33rd paragraph that we should recoin the Siccas of former Years at the charge of 1 P Cent, the real Expence of this Restamping will not exceed Eight annas, the remainder will be a Gain to the Company to whom it shall wholly be referred, till we are informed whether it is your pleasure to annex any part of it to the allowance of the Governor and Mint Master, in the same proportion as you have been pleased to do out of the established custom of 2 P Cent on the first Coinage.

Sixthly of Covenanted and Military Servants and their Accounts

123. Mr. Van Sittart arrived here the 27th July and received the Charge of the Government. He begs leave to take this first public Opportunity of expressing his great sense of the Uncommon favour you have shew'd him, and of Assuring your Honours of the utmost Zeal and Diligence in the Companys Service.

124. Mr. Amyatt having requested Leave by his letter of the 11th August to resign the Chiefship of Patna and come to Calcutta, the same was accordingly granted, and Mr. Macguire appointed to that Chiefship as in Consultation of 21st August.

125. Mr. Ellis arrived the 10th October and applied to the Board for the Chiefship of Patna as being Senior to Mr. Macguire who had not then set out but the affair being debated in Consultation of 20th the Majority were of Opinion that the former Appointment should stand Good.

126. Mr. Holwell by his Letter dated the 29th Sept. requesting Leave to resign the Honourable Companys Service the same was accordingly granted.

127. The Resignation of Mr. Holwell, the death of Mr. Burton and the departure of Mr. Grafton for Europe made three vacancies in the Council to which Messrs. Billers, Verelst and Smyth should have succeeded but those Gentlemen as well as Messrs. Saml. Waller and Cullen Smith having been appointed of Council at the time of the departure of the several Gentlemen who returned to Europe by the Ships of Last Season, and having been sworn in and taken their seats long before the receipt of your commands dated the 23rd November 1759 there seemed no great Impropriety in continuing them at the Board as it would be their right to Succeed to the first Vacancy. Accordingly the Council consists for the present of fourteen instead of twelve, but the

two first Vacancies that happen will not be filled up by which they will be reduced to the Number prescribed by your Honors.

128. Mr. Warren Hastings was long stationed at Moraudbaug, as Resident for transacting all the Company's Business at the Nabobs Durbar by his knowledge of the Language and his application to the Affairs committed to his management, he render'd on all Occasions satisfactory Services. But the President being desirous of his Assistance in carrying on the continual correspondence which in time of war is so necessary to be kept up with the Country Government, Officers in the Field, the Subordinate Settlements as well as the other Presidencies and the business at the Durbar not being so frequent but that it may be conducted by the Chief at Cossimbuzar without taking up too much of his Time. Mr. Hastings was therefore permitted to come to Calcutta and stationed under the President.

129. Mr. Francis Sykes having been afflicted with a Long Illness and the Surgeons giving it as their opinion that he can have no hopes of recovering his Health in this Climate he requested by his letter of the 29th Decemr. permission to proceed to Europe and accordingly takes passage on the Royall Duke. In Justice to his Merits we beg leave to recommend him to You as a diligent and capable Servant of which the Improvements he made in the Cossimbuzar investment during fifteen months that it was under his management may be mentioned as an Instance.

130. Mr. Cullen Smith finding the Frequent Attendances on the Councils and Committees interfered too much with his duty as Secretary to both, resigned the post of the Former, Mr. Geo. Gray was appointed to succeed him, as being Judged a capable person and we hope he will give proofs thereof, and of his diligence, by rectifying all the Errors and Omission of which your Honor have lately complained, and by Keeping the Business forward with due regularity.

131. Since Mr. Lushington's appointment to attend the Army we have been much at a loss For a Translator to make English Copies of the letters sent to and received from the country. For the Encouragement of the Gentlemen in the Company's Service to make themselves capable of that Task we have thought fit to annex a very extraordinary Salary to the Post of Translator, we have extended it even so far as three hundred Current Rupees P month being of opinion that it is a most essential point for the well managing the Company's business to have Gentlemen in the Service apply themselves to this study. Mr. Charles Rogers being so far versed in the Moors Language^a as to be capable of conducting the business with the Assistance of a Moonshey to read the Letters out of Persian into Moors we appointed him to the Post of Translator with the Salary before mentioned and flatter ourselves that for the foregoing reasons your Honors will approve of what we have done. The more to induce your Servants to be diligent in this pursuit we shall take the Liberty from time to time to mention the Names of those who by their Assiduity make such progress as to promise arriving at a Proficiency by which they will render

themselves useful, on this account Mr. Edward Gulstone chiefly merits our present Notice.

132. The Chiefship of Cossimbuzar was offered first to Mr. Amyatt then at Patna but he declining, Mr. Batson was appointed.

133. Mr. Charles O Hara died of a lingering illness, the 11th September, on account of which he was obliged to leave his Station at Patna.

134. Mr. Thomas Frist likewise died of a Fever on the 2nd August.

135. Mr. Edward Barwell going out a Volunteer with a Detachment of Seepoys from Patna against the Shazadda in February last was involved unfortunately in the Defeat and has not been since heard of, We conclude he fell in the field.

136. Of the Gentlemen taken this Season into your Service Messrs. Walton Stevens and Henry Hall, Factors, and Benjamin Ashwood Writer died at Fort St. George.

137. Notice has been given to Messrs. Joseph Jekyle and William Bodle of their Appointment but they are not yet arrived.

138. The other Gentlemen being arrived were called before the Board and questioned concerning the behaviour of the Captains of the vessels on which they took their passage towards them, and signified their Satisfaction, they are appointed to the Stations in which they were most required as will appear from our Consultations.

139. Without Disparagement to the Qualifications of the Gentlemen whom who [*sic*] you have been pleased to send out and appoint this Season as Factors, we beg leave to represent that the Gentlemen here who are thus superceded having been three, four, to five years employed in the different Branches of Your Affairs, and of whom some by their Diligence particularly Mr. George Williamson who has served for some time in the Post of Sub Secretary and has always done his duty greatly to our Satisfaction, have arrived at Offices of considerable Trust, must in general be more capable of conducting all parts of your Business than the Others for want of Experience can possibly pretend to. For this reason as well as for the sake of encouraging your Younger Servants with the hopes of rising in proportion to their merits, we take the Liberty to recommend your avoiding such appointments as much as possible. A Letter sign'd by the principal Gentlemen who have suffered on this occasion is entered after our Consultation of the 1st Septr. and we beg leave to recommend it to your Favourable Notice.

140. Captn. Gowen being gone to Bombay on Furlow will remain here according to your Appointment and Captn. Mackie in consequence of your orders of last Season has likewise proceeded thither.

141. Captn. James Spears being accused of appropriating to himself some Money that belonged to another Officer, was brought to his tryal before

a General Court Martial and Cashiered. Lieutenant Wilson resigned the Service and the Deaths among your Military Officers since the Departure of the last Ship are as follows, Captn. Ingram at Madrass, Lieutenants Price Sturgeon and Hassenclaver and Ensign Fenwick Ensigns Cockran and Winklebeck who commanded the party of Seepoys mentioned in the 135th Paragraph were both Killed by the Enemy.

142. On the face of our Consultations of the 2nd of June you will observe extract of a Letter from Col. Caillaud then commanding the Army at Patna strongly representing the Necessity of appointing another Field Officer there being at that time, none belonging to this establishment and the Majority of the board agreeing with Colonel Caillaud that Captn. Martin Yorke was the best qualified for that post it was accordingly resolved on to grant him a Brevet to act as Major till such time as your pleasure should be Known.

143. Two gentlemen were superceded by this promotion Captn. Fenwick and Captn. Fischer, the Former by your appointment to have the command of the 2nd Company. It was imagined you intended he should rise no higher, nor indeed will his advanced age, admit of his attending to the duties of a Commanding Officer, the objection to Captn. Fischer was his being a Foreigner.

144. In your letter of 23rd Novr. 1759 you mention that Major Carnac's commission will be sent by the Latter Ships, but as that has been omitted We have given him a Commission to take rank from the date of your said Letter by which he commands Major Yorke.

145. Captain Carstairs soon after his arrival delivered in a Letter setting forth his right of precedence over Major Yorke as entered after our Consultation of 11th November and a Letter from Captn. Fischer to the same purpose is entered after the Consultation of 15th December both which we refer'd to Your Honors' determination.

146. Colonel Caillaud represented it to be absolutely necessary for the success of your Military operations to have a body of European Cavalry in your Service, it was resolved in our Consultation of the 22nd Sept. to raise as fast as possible Two Troops of Dragoons and a small party of Hussars under the Regulations mentioned in that Days proceeding.

147. Accordingly the following Officers are appointed to serve in the Cavalry

Henry Spelman	to be Captain
John Carvalho	Captn. Lieutenant
George Hay	} 1st Lieuts.
and	
William Elerson	
Christopher Theos.	} Cornets
and	
De la Sert	

148. The following promotions have been made in your Military, Cadets John Pickering, Samuel Deal,—De Bezal, William Scotland, John Haynes, James Cowper, William Stuart, Christopher Theos. Chaigneau, Vernon Duffield, Alexr Don, Cornelius Crofts, William Mynatt, Thos Lander, Thos Blewett, Henry Mitchell to be Ensign, Ensign John Nollkins, Lieutenant Adrian Deek, Thomas Davis, William Hays, John Beal, Lieutenant Fireworkers, Lieutenant John Baylong and William Filewood to be 2nd Lieutenants, John Grewer to be 1st Lieutenant, Necross Dunstall and Ralph Winwood to be Captn. Lieutenants and Captain Lieutenant John Kinch to be Captn. of the Artillery.

149. The Great advantage we have found in having two or three Officers to every Battalion of Seepoys, is the reason the Number so much exceeds the established Companys.

150. Next Consultation after the Appointment of the Officers of the Cavalry, a Memorial signed by 33 Subaltern Officers was laid before the Board complaining of Mr. Carvalho's promotion to be Captn. Lieutenant, but it appearing to the Board that they had an undoubted right to appoint what Officers they thought proper to a corps entirely new and independant of the Infantry, we thought it sufficient to acquaint the Officers for their Satisfaction that it was never intended to remove the officers of the Cavalry to take rank over them in the Infantry, but not content with this John Trevanion and Sir William Hope waited upon Col. Caillaud the same Evening to acquaint him for themselves, and about 30 more subaltern Officers, that they had come to a resolution to resign their Commissions Many of those Officers were under actual orders for Service, and while Col. Caillaud was representing to them the extreemly bad example of such a Behaviour and endeavouring to make them Sensible of their Duty and the Injustice of their Pretensions, Mr. Carvalho hearing of the Trouble which his Promotion had occasioned, delivered in a Letter requesting to resign which being granted stop'd all further proceedings and the affair dropt, We have however caus'd it to be enter'd at Length in our Consultation of the 29th September and we beg leave to offer it as our opinion that such a combination deserves as much as possible to be discouraged and that Mr. Carvalho as well by his behaviour in this instance as by his Readyness since to do all the Service in his Power by acting as a Volunteer merits your Approbation and Favour

151. Lieutenant Fireworker Lyell being in so bad a state of Health as to be rendered unfit for your Service requested Leave to resign his Commission and return to Europe, we thought it more for your advantage to procure him a passage to England than to keep him here at a monthly Expence, he therefore takes his Passage on board the Royal Duke.

152. According to your Orders a General List of the Officers on this Establishment with the dates of their Several Commissions is enclosed in the Packett.

153. Francis How who came out this year a Cadet being Known to many of the Officers as a person of a bad character and unfit for an officer, as appears

by the Certificates entered after the Consultation of the 17th Novr. which his account of himself in his answer does not sufficiently clear up, we determin'd to send him back to England.

154. Robert Boulton mentioned in the 28th Paragraph of your Commands of 23rd Janry 1759 has been sometime in the service of the Country Government here. The Nabob lately consented to deliver him up and he goes on the Royal Duke.

155. John Raper whom you were pleas'd to Entertain as a bricklayer for this Settlement goes home at his own request as by his petition enter'd after the Consultation of the 17th November and as his Contract is not expir'd is to pay for his own Passage.

156. In the separate consultations relative to the Frauds committed in the new Works, there is a Letter deliver'd in on the 26th June by Mr. Francis Charlton then Storekeeper of the Works being a Vindication of his Conduct in the discharge of that Trust and shewing that if his Vouchers appeared for more Stores than were really delivered, it was entirely owing to the Imposition of the Banyan of his office in Combination with the rest of the Banyans entrusted in the several branches of the Works considering the great Variety of Stores received and delivered and the other Employments to which Mr. Charlton was obliged to Attend, it was hardly possible to guard against the settled designs of such a Combination, this accident has therefore not lessened the Opinion Mr. Charltons good behaviour made us conceive of him, and we hope will meet with the same favourable construction from your Honors.

157. Being in hopes that Chittigong will become a place of great Trade, we have appointed Mr. Verelst Chief, and Messrs. Randolph Marriott and Thos. Rumbold of Council; for other Appointments you will please to be referred to the List of Servants transmitted in the Packet.

158. In Paragraph 161 of your Commands of 1st April you direct your Servants allowances to be put on the footing of your Order of the 3rd March 1758 and that all Surpluses be repaid into your Treasury; the only addition made to that allowance is the article of House rent which is paid to your several Servants in lieu of having Apartments allotted to them there being at this Time no Appartments for that purpose; and the allowance made is barely sufficient to furnish a habitable Lodging; and we beg Leave to assure your Honors that your Servants could not possibly Subsist without it and we request therefore it may be continued till there are sufficient appartments for their accommodation.

159. In answer to the 119 Paragraph of your Commands of 1st April and in order to give Your Honors all the satisfaction you require concerning the Emoluments of the several posts in Council, we shall here state the same particularly for your Information.

The Governor has accordg. to your Directn. an allowance of.....
2000 Rs. P.M.....24000

The duty of 1 P.Ct. from the Mint may produce almost 5,000.

The Yearly Salary and gratuity of £ 300

A custom upon Freight Bales amounting to abt. 5,000

Import Warehouse Keeper, 50 Rs. P Menm.	600
Export Warehouse Keeper	Nothing
Accomptant.....Gratuity P annum.....	1,000
Mint master $\frac{1}{4}$ P.Ct. on coinage is abt. P Anm.....	2,500
Collector.....75 Sicca Rs. P Menm.....	900
Sea Custom master fees arig. on allowce. of 8 Annas P bill about	3,000
Buxey.....55 CRs. P Menm.....	660
Paymaster	Nothing
Register of Dustucks	1,000
Besides which each of the Council have CRs. 98-7-6 P. month and £ 40 P Annum.	

160. The Gentlemen of Council as well as all your other Servants would very willingly obey our Directions relative to giving a Twelvemonths Notice before they Quit your Service but they hope that no determinate Conclusions are to be drawn from such Notices, as it may happen that a Gentleman whose circumstances now give him room to hope he may be able to retire next Year may before the Time comes meet with Accidents that put his Fortune back and oblige him to remain in India.

161. The treaty made with Cossim Ally Cawn and which in its Consequence produced the late Change in the Subaship, was debated and Concluded entirely by the Select Committee and not made Known to the rest of the Council until the whole was executed and the President returned from the City when a Compleat account of the proceedings was laid before the board This method appeared to the Select Committee to be most conformable to the plan laid down in the 59 Paragraph of your Commands of the 11th Feb. 1756 and the 52 Paragraph of the 11th November 1757, it being an affair which seem'd to them absolutely to require secrecy and it must be confessed that the Secrecy which was observed was the means of having the plan carried into execution with so much facility and with disturbance or loss of Blood.

162. We mention this in order to have your Honors determination whether this method of proceeding of the Select Committee is conformable to your Intentions, or not. Messrs. Verelst and Smyth two of the Gentlemen of the Council having made a minute in Consultation of the 8th November signifying it to be their Opinion that the plan should have been communicated to the whole Board before it was carried into Execution, We hope to be favoured with your particular Orders for our future Guidance.

163. Messrs. Sumner and Mac Guire having been sworn into the Select Committee before your Commands of this Season arrived, and being well

acquainted with all the proceedings of the Committee, and the State of Affairs depending on their Management, the other Members were desirous they should continue to be of that Board.

164. And Mr Ellis arriving afterwards in a rank above the two gentlemen before mentioned, and being thought in all respects a fit person to be a Member of the Select Committee, he also was sworn in.

165. The death of Mr. Barton occasioned one Vacancy so that the said Committee consists now of two Members more than are appointed by your orders of the 16th January 1760 vizt.

The President

Peter Amyatt Esqre.

Lieut. Col. Caillaud . . . as Commander in Chief of the Troops here in absence of Colonel Coote.

Major John Carnac on military affairs only

Mr. Wm. Ellis

Mr. Wm. Brightwell Sumner

Mr. Wm. Macguire

In order to reduce the Number to five, as prescrib'd by your Orders the two first Vacancies that may Happen will not be filled up.

166. Mr. Richard Wilder acquaints you in his Address by this Packet of his reasons for remaining here; he will now wait your further orders and in the mean time be employ'd in Continuing to make all the Improvements he can on the Winding of the raw Silk.

167. Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted was in Compliance to your commands ordered to hold himself ready to proceed to Bombay, and accordingly gave up the Office of Surveyor and Mr. Edward Handle was appointed in his stead.

168. But being afterwards advised that Mr. Plaisted's Assistance would be very useful in completing the Surveys of the River and Coasts near Chittigong we have employ'd him on the Service, esteeming it very essential and have wrote to the President and Council at Bombay that he shall proceed to them after his return.

169. The Infirmities which Captn. Fenwicks age subjects him to rendering him incapable of enduring the Fatigues with which your Military Service is Attended, we recommend it to you to make a provision for him suitable to his Long Services.

170. In our Consultation of the 2nd June you will find a Complaint laid before the Council against Mr. James Barton for beating a Banyan and in that of 9th is his Reply to the Charge but as it was a matter judged to belong to the Quarter Sessions and the Parties making it up between them the Council took no further measures regarding it.

171. The several paragraphs in Your Letter of the 1st April 1760 relating to Mr. Holwell being communicated to that Gentleman he delivered us in, a letter on the Subject which is entered in our Consultation of the 1st Dec. to which you will please be referred.

172. We have made the enquiry which you direct concerning the Insinuations contained in the Letter of Mr. Paul Richard Pearkes to the Court of Directors, and find that his Information concerning Foreign Woollen Goods being carried up to Patna arises from a purchase made by several gentlemen here of a parcel of French Broad Cloth taken in Chandernagore and sold at the public sales, a circumstance of this sort will not We imagine fall under your censure and for the future we shall Levy the Duty of twenty P Cent as you direct, if any should be Imported. That Gentleman departed this life of a lingering Illness the 24th October.

173. Relative to your complaint of Messrs. Beecher and Smith we have only to refer you to the 140th Paragraph of the Genl. Letter from hence P Calcutta and Hardwicke dated the 29th Decemr. 1759.

174. In compliance with your Commands we have paid off the Bonds in the name of Mr. Williamson, Mr. Plaisted, Mrs. Mapletoft, Mrs. Arratoon and the Charity School stock.

175. Applications have since been made to us for the payment of several Bonds which were lost at the Capture of Calcutta.

176. Mr. Holwell as Attorney for the Heirs of Thomas Purnell and Trustee for Robert Massey deced. sent in a letter to the Board repeating his demand of Payment of the Bonds he mentioned in his Letter of the 5th March 1759. Mr. Fullerton demanded payment of a Bond of CRs. 2,273-12-9 in the name of Walpole Eyre as by his letter, entered after the consultation of the 12th November and produced a Certifi[cate.] Captn. Roch also produced a certificate for a Bond in the name of George and Mary Tipping for CRs. 5,827-2-3 as in his letter of the 17th Novemr. and Messrs. Smith and Beaumont produced one in the name of Roger Drake Junr. and John Browne for two Bonds amounting to CRs. 10,324-5. as in their Letter of the 26th Decemr. and a black Merchant produced one in the name of Anumderam Coppree for CRs. 800. We declined paying any of these demands until we shall be favoured with your Orders for that purpose but we must give it as Our opinion that they are justly due as well as the rest contained in a List entered after our Consultation of the 25th Febry. for the reasons mentioned in the 5th Paragraph of the Genl. Letter of the 3rd March last. No fresh demands of this sort have since then as yet appeared.

177. We have received from the Directors and Council at Chincera the sum of CRs. 75,428-10-6 as Indemnification for losses sustained in the Dutch Troubles according to the Tenor of the Treaty. The particular statement is entered after our Consultation of the 20th June last. The private losses included therein have been paid to the respective proprietors

on their giving Indemnification to refund their several proportions in case this Money should ever be restored to the Dutch.

178. In our Consultation of the 22nd of September you will observe the post of a Committee [Commissary] appointed for the Regulation of accounts laying down Rules for keeping the Accounts of the Army in a more regular manner as well as the Accounts with the other Presidency and the accounts of money at Interest.

179. In consequence of what was there recommended Mr. Hugh Watts was appointed Commissary General for camp expenses.

180. Mr. Wm. Magee was appointed to carry on the Book of the Presidency, but it was found convenient for the sake of dispatching to confine him to bringing up and settling the Old Accounts and give the Books of the Settlement to Mr. Dacres, our Sub Accomptant. Mr. Magee in his Letter of the 15th Decr. informs us our sets of Books vizt. ending in June 1756, April 1757, 1758 and 1759 will be ready to be transmitted by the latter ships of this Season.

181. We very much fear that the ensuing Years investment will be very short, for want of having a sufficient Stock in our Treasury to begin it at this time. If no hostilities in the country prevent the regular Collection of our revenues, they will be very considerable but if we must keep an army or two in the fields as is the case at present, and if the demands of Madrass Presidency do not cease, all that we collect will scarcely suffice for those purposes; happy will it be if we can provide so far and for the expenses of the Fortifications and other Indispensable charges of the Settlement our Draughts upon you this Season will be considerable but there is little prospect of any large sums coming in by that Channel the ensuing Year. We therefore hope and must recommend that supplies of Treasure may be sent out as formerly. A large Command of Money will always enable us to extend Your Investment in proportion & prove advantageous to the Company.

182. We have granted the following Setts of Bills of Exchange payable at three hundred and sixty five Days after sight valuing the current Rupee at two shillings and four pence sterling.

One sett for one hundred seventeen pounds, seven shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 117-7-4) payable to Christopher Roberts for current rupees one thousand and six (CRs. 1006) reced. here of Abr'am Gee Esqre.

One Sett for six hundred and thirty pounds sterling (£sterg. 630) payable to Captn. Johnson Ranson for current rupees five thousand and four hundred (CRs. 5,400) reced. here of Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted.

One Sett for eighty one pounds thirteen shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 81⁹-13-4) payable to Captn. Richard Allwright for current rupees seven hundred (CRs. 700) reced. here of Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted.

One Sett for four hundred and sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 466-13-4) payable to Messrs. Alexander Callender and Allan Auld or either of their Orders for Current Rupees four thousand (CRs. 4000) reced. here of Mr. Bryan Scotney on account of Captn. Peter Carstairs.

One Sett for one hundred and eighty five pounds nine shillings and nine pence sterling (£sterg. 185-9-9) payable to Captn. George Lindsay for Current Rupees one thousand five hundred and eighty nine, ten annas, and three pice (CRs. 1589-10-3) reced. here of Mr. Robert Browne on account of Captain Archibald Kier.

One Sett for forty pounds, seven shillings and two pence sterling (£sterg. 40-7-2) payable to William Davis Esqre. for current rupees, three hundred and forty five, fourteen annas, and nine pice (CRs. 345-14-9) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre. Account the Estate of William Parker Deced.

One Sett for twenty one pounds, eight shillings and three pence sterling (£sterg. 21-8-3) payable to William Davis Esqre. for current rupees, one hundred and eighty three, eight annas and six pice (CRs. 183-8-6) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre. account the estate of Thomas Leech deced.

One Sett for seven thousand pounds sterling (£sterg. 7,000) payable to William Davis, Charles Whaley and William Birch Esqres. or either of their orders for current rupees sixty thousand (CRs. 60,000) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre.

One Sett for Two hundred and seven pounds thirteen shillings sterling (£sterg. 207-13) payable to Edward Wharton Esqre for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine, thirteen annas and six pice (CRs. 1779-13-6) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre. Account the estate of Nathan Drake deced.

One Sett for two thousand one hundred and eighty five pounds, fifteen shillings sterling (£sterg. 2185-15) payable to William Davis and Richard Eyre Esqrs. for current rupees eighteen thousand seven hundred and thirty five (CRs. 18,735) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre. Account the Estate of Captn. Bernard Forrester Deced.

One Sett for sixty five pounds eight shillings sterling (£sterg. 65-8-0) payable to William Davis Esqre. for Current Rupees five hundred and sixty, nine annas (CRs. 560-9) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre. Account Flizth. Parrott.

One Sett for one hundred and seventy pounds fourteen shillings and six pence (£sterg. 170-14-6) payable to Captn. Philip Toadrell for current rupees, one thousand four hundred and sixty three, five annas and nine pice (CRs. 1463-5-9) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqr. account Robert Baker and William Scott.

One sett for two hundred and twenty five pounds thirteen shillings Sterling (£sterg. 225-13) payable to William Davis Esqre. for current rupees one thousand nine hundred and thirty four two annas and six pice (CRs. 1934-2-6) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre. account William Davis Esqre. One sett for twenty five pounds six shillings and three pence sterling (£sterg. 25-6-3) payable to Mr. Richard Bristow for current rupees Two hundred and sixteen, fifteen Annas and three pice (CRs. 216-15-3) reced. here of Mr. Edward Tuckey, on account of Mr. Thomas Bristow.

One Sett for Fifteen Thousand one hundred and sixty six pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence Sterling (£sterg. 15166-13-4) payable to Robert Clive Esqre. for Current Rupees one hundred and thirty thousand (CRs. 130,000) reced. here of Messrs. William Fullerton and Thomas Amphlett.

One sett for Ten Thousand, five hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 10,500) payable to William Barwell and Ynyr Burgess Esqrs for current rupees ninety thousand (CRs. 90,000) reced. here of William Fullerton on account of Peter Amyatt Esqre.

One sett for Two hundred and ninety five pounds thirteen shillings and five pence sterling (£sterg. 295-13-5) payable to John Fullerton Esqre. for current rupees Two thousand five hundred and thirty four, five annas and three pice (CRs. 2534-5-3) reced. here of Mr. William Craigs deced.

One sett for Three Hundred and forty three pounds five shillings and eight pence sterling (£sterg. 343-5-8) payable to John Fullerton Esqre for current rupees, Two thousand nine hundred and forty two, seven annas (CRs. 2942-7) rece'd. here from Mr. William Fullerton, Account the Estate of Robert Wark Deced.

One sett for six hundred pounds, sixteen shillings and Ten pence Sterling (£sterg. 600-16-10) to William Mackett Esqre. for current rupees, five thousand one hundred and fifty, one Anna, and three pice (CRs. 5150-1-3) reced. here from Mr. William Fullerton Account the Estate of George Minchin Deced.

One sett for one hundred and ninety six pounds, four shillings and six pence sterling (£sterg. 196-4-6) payable to Mr. William Fullerton for current rupees, one thousand six hundred and eighty one, fourteen annas and nine pice (CRs. 1681-14-9) reced. here from Mr. William Fullerton, account the estate of William Tidcombe.

One sett for, Five hundred and thirty two pounds twelve shillings (£sterg. 532-12) payable to William Barwell Esqre for current rupees four thousand five hundred and sixty five two Annas and three pice (CRs. 4565-2-3) rece'd here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One Sett for, Two thousand seven hundred and twenty four pounds thirteen shillings and nine pence sterling (£sterg. 2724-13-9) payable to Sir Alexander Grant for Current rupees twenty three thousand three hundred and fifty four, eight Annas (CRs. 23,354-8) rece'd. here of Mr. William Fullerton Account Peter Garden Esqre.

One sett for five hundred and seventy five pounds seven shillings and three pence sterling (£sterg. 575-7-3) payable to Edward Holden Cruttenden Esqre. for current rupees four thousand nine hundred and thirty one, eleven annas (CRs. 4931-11) reced. here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One Sett for, three hundred and twenty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 326-13-4) payable to Thomas Townsend Esqre. for current rupees, Two thousand, eight hundred (CRs. 2800) reced. here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One Sett for, fifty eight pounds six shillings and eight pence sterling (£sterg. 58-6-8) payable to Mr. William Nixon for current rupees, five hundred (CRs. 500) reced. here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for, six thousand three hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 6300) payable to Mr. William Fullerton or order, for current rupees fifty four thousand (CRs. 54000) rece'd. here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for, five thousand, two hundred and fifty pounds sterling (£sterg. 5250) payable to Mr. William Fullerton or order, for current rupees, forty five thousand (CRs. 45,000) rece'd. here of Mr. William Fullerton

One sett for, four thousand, seven hundred and eighty three pounds, six shillings and eight pence sterling (£sterg. 4783-6-8) payable to Mr. William Fullerton or order, for current rupees, forty one Thousand (CRs. 41,000) reced. here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for four thousand, two hundred and thirty one pounds, ten shillings sterling, (£sterg. 4231-10) payable to Thomas Holme Esqre. for current rupees, thirty six thousand two hundred and sixty six, one Anna three pice (CRs. 36,266-1-3) reced. here of William Brightwell Sumner Esqre.

One sett for, four hundred and twenty six pounds one shilling and seven pence sterling (£sterg. 426-1-7) payable to Richard and William Barwell Esqres. for current rupees, three thousand six hundred and fifty two, one Anna and nine pice (CRs. 3652-1-9) reced. here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqres.

One sett for five hundred and thirty seven pounds, six shillings and one penny sterling (£sterg. 537-6-1) payable to Messrs. Jacob Moses and Raphael Franco for current rupees Four thousand, six hundred and five, seven annas six pice (CRs. 4605-7-6) reced. here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqres.

One sett for seven hundred and ninety pounds, fifteen shillings sterling (£sterg. 790-15) payable to C. Manningham and William Frankland Esqres. for current rupees, six thousand seven hundred and seventy seven, thirteen annas, six pice (CRs. 6777-13-6) received here from William Brightwell Sumner and Gulling Smith Esqres.

One sett for, Two thousand five hundred and seventy one pounds, six shillings and three pence sterling (£sterg. 2571-6-3) payable to William

Frankland Esqre. for current rupees, twenty two thousand, and thirty nine. thirteen annas (CRs. 22,039-13) reced. here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqres.

One sett for, six thousand pounds sterling (£sterg. 6,000) payable to William Waller, James Adam and Henry Brougham Esqrs. or either of their orders, for current rupees, fifty one thousand and four hundred and twenty one, six annas and nine pice (CRs. 51421-6-9) reced. here of Samuel Waller Esqre.

One sett for, four Hundred and ninety five pounds four shillings and five pence sterling (£sterg. 495-4-5) payable to Charles Manningham Esqre. for current rupees, four thousand two hundred and fourty four, twelve annas. (CRs. 4244-12) reced. here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for eleven pounds, nineteen shillings and five pence sterling (£sterg. 11-19-8) payable to George Ballard Esqre. for current rupees, one hundred and two, nine annas and six pice (CRs. 102-9-6) reced. here of Mr. Henry Lushington account the estate of George Ballard deced.

One sett for, one hundred sixty four pounds and eight pence sterling (£sterg 164-0-8) payable to Caleb Powell Esqre. for current rupees one thousand and four hundred and six (CRs. 1406) reced. here of Messrs. Lushington and Amphlett.

One sett for, four hundred and sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 466-13-4) payable to William Davis and William Birch Esqrs. for current rupees, four thousand (CRs. 4000) received here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqr.

One sett for, six hundred and five pounds, two shillings and two pence sterling (£sterg. 605-2-2) payable to John Henry Merllins Esqre. for current rupees, five thousand one hundred and eighty six, ten annas, (CRs. 5186-10) reced. here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for, one thousand six hundred and thirty three pounds, ten shillings and eight pence sterling (£sterg 16,33-10-8) payable to Willam Mackett and Charles Brown Esqrs or either of their orders for current rupees fourteen thousand (CRs. 14,000) reced. here of William Anselm Beaumont.

One sett for, four thousand eighty three pounds, six shillings and eight pence sterling (£sterg. 4083-6-8) payable to Thomas Boddam Esqre. or his Assigns or either of their orders for current rupees, thirty five thousand (CRs. 35000) reced. here of Harry Verelst Esqre. and Mr. William Magee.

One sett for, two hundred and thirteen pounds five shillings and ten pence sterling (£sterg. 213-5-10) payable to Mr. Judah Supino for current rupees one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight, three annas, and three pice (CRs. 1828-3-3) reced. here from the Honble Henry Van Sittart Esqre. in full returns for a box of coral beads marked L S L No. 1 imported P ship Sandwich 1760.

One sett for two thousand pounds sterling. (£sterg. 2,000) payable to Mr. John Mills or order for current rupees seventeen thousand, one hundred and forty two, thirteen annas, nine pice, (CRs. 17142-13-9) reced. here of Mr. John Mills.

One sett for, three hundred and thirty six pounds, five shillings and three pence sterling. (£sterg. 336-5-3) payable to Charles Raymond Esqre for current rupees, two thousand eight hundred and eighty two, three annas and six pice (CRs. 2882-3-6) reced. here of Captn. Thomas Fenwicke.

One sett for, one thousand eight hundred and thirty six pounds one shilling and eight pence sterling (£sterg. 1836-1-8) payable to Mrs. Frances Watts for current rupees, fifteen thousand seven hundred and thirty seven, fourteen annas and three pice (CRs. 15737-14-3) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre.

One sett for two thousand two hundred and ninety four pounds seventeen shillings and ten pence sterling (£sterg 2294-17-10) payable to Mr. Cattanacks for current rupees nineteen thousand six hundred seventy five annas and three pice (CRs. 19670-5-3) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre Account Captn. Alexander Grant.

One sett for four thousand three hundred and sixteen pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 4316-13-4) payable to Roger Drake, Beeston Long and Roger Drake Junr. Esqrs. for current rupees thirty seven thousand (CRs. 37,000) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre. and Mr Anselm Beaumont on account of Roger Drake Junr. Esqre.

One sett for, seven hundred and ninety seven pounds ten shillings and eight pence sterling (£sterg. 797-10-8) payable to Alexander Nesbit Esqre. for current rupees, six thousand eight hundred and thirty six (CRs. 6836) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre. on account of Mr. Thomas Rumbold.

One sett for, three hundred and twenty four pounds, six shillings and three pence sterling (£sterg. 324-6-3) payable to Mr. Joseph Adnett for current rupees, Two thousand seven hundred and seventy nine, thirteen annas and nine pice (CRs. 2779-13-9) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre. account Major Martin Yorke for account the estate of Captain Joseph Adnett deced.

One sett for, two hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 200) payable to Mr. William Robertson for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four annas, and six pice (CRs. 1714-4-6) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre. account Captn. Archibald Blair.

One sett for, two thousand, three hundred and thirty three pounds, six shillings and eight pence sterling (£sterg. 2333-6-8) payable to Joseph Fowke Esqre. for current rupees, Twenty thousand (CRs. 20,000) reced. here of Messrs. Hay Lushington and Gray.

One sett for, two thousand, three hundred and thirty three pounds, six shillings and eight pence sterling (£sterg. 2333-6-8) payable to Joseph Fowke Esqre. for current rupees, twenty thousand (CRs. 20,000) reced. here of Messrs. Hay Lushington and Gray.

One sett for five hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 500) payable to Mr. Francis Sykes or order, for current rupees four thousand and two hundred and eighty five, eleven [annas] and six pice (CRs. 4285-11-6) reced. here of Mr. Francis Sykes.

One sett for, two thousand three hundred, and thirty three pounds, six shillings and eight pence sterling (£2333-6-8) payable to Joseph Fowke Esqre. for current rupees, twenty thousand (CRs. 20,000) reced. here of Messrs. Hay Lushington and Gray.

One sett for, Ten thousand two hundred and thirty eight pounds, twelve shillings and eleven pence sterling (£ 10,238-12-11) payable to Roger Altham and George Clive Esqrs and the Revd. Mr. Henry Lushington or either of their orders, for current rupees, eighty seven thousand, seven hundred and fifty nine, thirteen annas, nine pice (CRs. 87,759-13-9) reced. here of Mr. Henry Lushington.

One sett for, sixty nine pounds, eleven shillings and six pence sterling (£sterg. 69-11-6) to Benjamin Longuet and Joseph Guinard Esqrs for current rupees, five hundred and ninety six, six annas (CRs. 596-6) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre. account the Estate of Nicholas Clerembault deced.

One sett for, one hundred and forty six pounds eleven shillings, and ten pence sterling (£sterg. 146-11-10) payable to Messrs. Richard Beecher and William Nixon, or either of their orders, for current rupees, one thousand two hundred and fifty six, eight annas, six pice (CRs. 1256-8-6) reced. here of Messrs. Anselm Beaumont and Hugh Watts Attorneys for Henry Verelst Esqre. on account of Mrs. Jane Court.

Making in the whole (CRs. 954567-14-3) or (£sterg. 111,367-11-4)

183. We have granted the following setts of bills for the procurement of Necessarys, payable at 90 days after sight at two shillings and four pence sterling the Current Rupee.

One sett for, sixty five pounds two shillings sterling (£sterg. 65-2) payable to Mr. George Brown for current rupees, five hundred and fifty eight (CRs. 558) reced. here from Wm. Mc Guire Esqre.

One sett for, five hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 500) payable to Arthur Annesly Esqre. for current rupees four thousand, two hundred and eighty-five, eleven annas and six pice (CRs. 4285-11-6) reced. here of William Mc-Guire Esqre..

One sett for, two hundred pounds sterling. (£sterg. 200) payable to Mr. Thomas Burgoyne for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four annas and six pice (CRs. 1714-4-6) reced. here from Lieutenant John Matthews.

One lett for, one hundred and fifty four pounds sterling (£sterg. 154) payable to Mrs. Mary Bodley for current rupees, one thousand and three hundred and twenty (CRs. 1320) reced. here from Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft.

One sett for one hundred and thirty pounds sterling (£sterg. 130) payable to Stephen Law Esqre. for current rupees one thousand one hundred and fourteen, four annas, and six pice (CRs. 1114-4-6) reced. here from Mr. John Cartier.

One sett for, one hundred pounds sterling (£sterg 100) payable to Francis Jackson Esqre. for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of Mrs. Johanna Ross.

One sett for, one hundred and seventeen pounds, seven shillings, and four pence sterling (£sterg. 117-7-4) payable to Abr'am Gee Esqre. or order, for current rupees, one thousand and six (CRs. 1006) reced. here of Abr'am Gee Esqre.

One sett for, one hundred and sixteen pounds thirteen shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 116-13-4) payable to Messrs. John Gould and Charles Hay for current rupees, one thousand (CRs. 1000) reced. here of Mr. John Gould.

One sett for seventy pounds sterling (£sterg. 70) payable to Mr. John Burnett, for current rupees, six hundred (CRs. 600) reced. here of Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 100) payable to Mr. William Magee, or order for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven two annas and three pice (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of Mr. William Magee.

One sett for two hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 200) payable to Mr. James Russell for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four annas, and six pice (CRs. 1714-4-6) reced. here of Mr. Francis Russell.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 100) payable to Miss Rachael Senior for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas, three pice, (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of Mr. Ascanius William Senior.

One sett for seventy pounds sterling (£sterg 70) payable to Mr. Henry Davidson for current rupees, six hundred (CRs. 600) reced. here of Mr. Herbert Pyefinch.

One sett for fifteen pounds, ten shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 15-10-4) payable to Mr. George Vaughan, for current rupees, one hundred and thirty three, six pice (CRs. 133-0-6) reced. here of Mr. Fitz Owen Jones on account of George Vaughan.

One sett for thirty two pounds sterling (£sterg. 32) payable to Sir Joseph, Sir Thomas Hankey and company for current rupees, two hundred and seventy one, six annas and nine pice, (CRs. 271-6-9) reced. here of Mr. Joseph Gethin.

One sett for three hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 300) payable to William Waller, Henry Brougham, and James Adams Esqrs. or either of their orders, for current rupees, Two thousand. five hundred and seventy one, seven annas, (CRs. 2571-7) reced. here of Samuel Waller Esqre. on account of Mr. John Cartier.

One sett for thirty pounds sterling (£sterg. 30) payable to Mr. William Bolts or order for current rupees, two hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice (CRs. 257-2-3) reced. here from Mr. William Bolts.

One sett for fifty one pounds, nineteen shillings and nine pence sterling (£sterg. 51-19-9) payable to Mr. Samuel Mercer for current rupees, four hundred and forty five, nine annas and nine pice, (CRs. 445-9-9) reced. of Mr. Edward Tuckey account the Estate of Willis Orr deced.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 100) payable to Constantia Mapletoft for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven two annas and three pice (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre.

One sett for three hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 300) payable to Sir James Johnstone Bart. and Mr. William Johnstone for current rupees, two thousand five hundred and seventy one, seven annas (CRs. 2571-7) reced. here of Mr. John Johnstone.

One sett for, seventy pounds sterling. (£sterg. 70) payable to Mr. Henry Hastings for current rupees, six hundred (CRs. 600) reced. here of Mr. Samuel Middleton.

One sett for fifty five pounds and three pence sterling (£sterg. 55-0-3) payable to Captn. John Allan and Mr. Andrew Thompson for current rupees, four hundred and seventy one, eight annas, and nine pice (CRs. 471-8-9) reced. here of Mr. Thomas Blaney.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 100) payable to Doctor John Monro for current rupees eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre.

One sett for two hundred and ninety one pounds nineteen shillings and nine pence sterling (£sterg. 291-19-9) payable to John Henry Merttins Esqre. for current rupees, Two thousand five hundred and two, nine annas and six pice (CRs. 2502-9-6) reced. here of Mr. Philip Milner Dacres.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling, (£sterg. 100) payable to Mrs. Frances Southby for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of Mr. Thomas Rumbold.

One sett for three hundred and fifty pounds sterling (£sterg. 350) payable to William and Thomas Watts Esqrs for current rupees, three thousand (CRs. 3000) reced. here of Mr. Hugh Watt.

One sett for sixty three pounds sterling (£sterg. 63) payable to Mr. John May or order for current rupees, five hundred and forty (CRs. 540) reced. here of Mr. John May.

One sett for sixty three pounds sterling (£sterg. 63) payable to Mr. John Taylor or order for current rupees, five hundred and forty (CRs. 540) reced. here of Mr. John Taylor.

One sett for sixty three pounds sterling (£sterg. 63) payable to Mrs. Eliz Margass or order for current rupees, five hundred and forty (CRs. 540) reced. here of Mrs. Eliz Margass.

One sett for sixty three pounds sterling (£sterg. 63) payable to Mr. Herbert Pyefinch for current rupees, five hundred and forty (CRs. 540) reced. here of Mr. Herbert Pyefinch.

One sett for eighty one pounds, eight shillings and eight pence sterling (81-8-8) payable to Mrs. Frances Southby for current rupees, six hundred ninety eight (CRs. 698) reced. here of Mr. William Magee.

One sett for nineteen pounds, four shillings and six pence sterling (£sterg. 19-4-6) payable to Mr. James Allan for current rupees, one hundred and sixty four, Twelve annas and six pice (CRs. 164-12-6) reced. here of Mr. Oliver Webbon, account of Mr. Parker Hatley.

One sett for six hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 600) payable to William Barwell and Jnyr Burgess Esqrs. for current rupees, five thousand one hundred and forty two, thirteen annas and nine pice (CRs. 5142-13-9) reced. here of Peter Amyatt Esqre.

One sett for two hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 200) payable to Brabazon Ellis and William Watts Esqrs. for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four annas and six pice (CRs. 1714-4-6) reced. here of William Eillis Esqre.

One sett for sixty three pounds sterling (£sterg. 63) payable to Mr. Dudley Davis or order for current rupees five hundred and forty (CRs. 540) reced. here of Mr. Dudley Davis.

One sett for five hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 500) payable to Mr. William Fullerton or order for current rupees, four thousand two hundred and eighty five, eleven annas and six pice (CRs. 4285-11-6) reced. here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for five hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 500) payable to Mr. Francis Sykes or order, for current rupees four thousand, two hundred and eighty five, eleven annas, and six pice (CRs. 4285-11-6) reced. here of Mr. Francis Sykes.

One sett for one hundred and twenty-five pounds three shillings and one penny sterling (£sterg. 125-3-1) payable to Mr. John Mills or order for current rupees, one thousand and seventytwo, twelve annas (CRs. 1072-12) reced. here from Mr. John Mills.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 100) payable to Mr. Thomas Smith for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas, and three pice (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of Mr. William Smith.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 100) payable to Charles Raymond Esqre. for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of Captain Thomas Fenwick.

One sett for two hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 200) payable to Mrs. Isabel Nedrick for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four annas and six pice (CRs. 1714-4-6) received here of Mr. Bryan Scotney on account of Mr. Paul Nedrick.

One sett for sixty two pounds, sixteen shillings sterling (£sterg. 62-16) payable to Captain Robert Campbell for current rupees, five hundred and thirty eight, four annas, and nine pice (CRs. 538-4-9) reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre. and Mr. Francis Charlton on account of Captain Robert Campbell.

One sett for four hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 400) payable to Joseph Creswicke and Francis Sykes Esqrs. for current rupees, three thousand, four hundred and twenty eight, nine annas (CRs. 3428-9) reced. here of Mr. Warren Hastings.

One sett for, sixty three pounds, four shillings and four pence sterling (£sterg. 63-4-4) payable to George Barne Esqre. for current rupees, five hundred and forty one, thirteen annas, and nine pice (CRs. 541-13-9) reced. here of Mr. Thomas Cooke.

One sett for fifty six pounds, eleven shillings and ten pence sterling (£56-11-10) payable to Captn. Richard Thelwall for current rupees, four hundred and eighty five, one anna (CRs. 485-1) reced. here of Mr. Thomas Cooke.

One sett for, one hundred pounds sterling (£sterg. 100) payable to Mr. George Mandevile for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice (CRs. 857-2-3) reced. here of Mr. Thomas Cooke.

One sett for, one hundred and three pounds, twelve shillings sterling (£sterg. 103-12) payable to Mr. Thomas Holme for current rupees, eight hundred and eighty eight (CRs. 888) reced. here of Peter Amyatt Esqre.

Amounting in all to CRs. 62111-3-6 or £sterg. 7246-13-2.

184. The Whole Amount of Bills granted on your Honors by this Ship comes to (CRs. 1016679-1-9) or £sterg. 118614-4-6.

Charter

185. His Majestys Charter limiting the Sum of 1,000 Pagodas for the lowes to admit of an Appeal from us to the King and Council we are entirely left in Doubt as to the intended Value of a Pagoda. In a Cause brought before us and appealed to the King it was disputed Whether it amounted to the Sum prescribed by the Charter, We thought the Justest way of deciding the Question was by computing the Pagodas, 1000 at your Exchange of eight shillings, Making £400 and then reducing that sum into Rupees, at your exchange of 274 making CRs. 3428-9. . . . by this rule we shall be guided until we receive your directions on the Subject.

186. The owners of the Ship Restitution, sued the Company for the value of that Ship in the Mayors Court, where a Decree was passed in Favour of the Said Owners. In order to give the cause the proper Channel we formed

ourselves into a Court of Appeals, and reversed the Decree of the Mayors Court, that a regular appeal might be made from us to his Majesty. The Opposite Party accordingly appealed to the King and we have drawn out an Answer, both of which are sent in the Packett and the Companys Attorney forwards copies of the proceedings on both sides.

187. It was disputed what right we as the Company's Agents had to sit as a Court of Appeals, where the Company was Concerned, but upon examining the Charter we found those Gentlemen of Council only excluded from sitting as Judges who were personally interested in the Event of any Cause; and that not being the case with the Members of the Board, who derive their power as a Court from the King we thought ourselves authorize'd to sit. We request your Explanation of this part of the Charter, also for our future guidance.

188. Paulo Baptisto, a Man convicted of Felony at the Quarter Sessions, for Stealing some jewels belonging to a Woman with whom he lived, was according to the Evidence that Appeared against him, condemned, but recommended to the Mercy of the Court, as it appeared in the course of the Tryal that the convict was in Liquor when he committed the Fact and by some circumstances seemed to have no Evil intent, we beg leave therefore to mention him as an Object of Mercy, and to request you will Intercede with his Majesty to obtain his pardon.

Supplement

189. By our Artillery Officers report we find the Brass field pieces, sent out this season are far from being compleated, and desire therefore the following Directions may be given in future.

190. That the Vents be drilled larger, the Trunnions be turned and that part to which the Head of the Breech Screw is fastened under the Cascable, to be drilled.

191. It is also observed that the Trunnions of the Iron twelve pounders are not strong enough to bear Frequent Discharges.

192. Some Copper bought at the Company's Sales at Madrass was sent down here, and on its being landed we levied the Import Duty of four P. Cent on it as on other Goods imported. The Proprietors producing Certificates that it was bought at the Companys Sales at Madrass, applied to be freed from that Custom. But as no Duty was in reality taken at Madrass and it is to be supposed the proprietors find their Advantage by bringing Copper from that Settlement here, we did not think proper to abate the Customs; on the other Hand it may be supposed that the remitting the duty on Goods bought at your Sales would be an Encouragement to the Purchasers; We request your Directions on this Head for our Guidance in future.

193. There being no Surgeons Instruments sent out along with your Medicines, We request you will please to send out two or three Compleat Setts of the best for the use of our Hospital and continue to send us an annual Supply of two setts.

194. The arms which the Commanders bring out for purchasing provisions on their Voyage and which we receive into your Stores at Prime Cost, are not fit for any use as they cannot be trusted on Service.

195. In the former part of this Letter concerning the Frauds committed on the New Works, we mentioned the Sum confessed by Govindram Tagoor and Capt. Brohier, and that several Sums had been repaid on that Account Besides These the Sum of 80,000 CRs. was privately presented to Mr. Holwell by those concerned in that Affair with a view of prevailing on him, who alone was acquainted with the Discovery to drop the Prosecution; this sum was paid into the Treasury and carried likewise to the Credit of Over charges in the New Works, but was not accounted as a part of the Sums for which the Delinquents were Answerable. Mr. Holwell through the whole course of this Enquiry shewed a Diligence and Attention for Which he received the thanks of the Board and Merits likewise your particular Notice.

196. Although Mesrs. Amyatt Ellis and Smyth, Signed this Address as members of the Council, they yet dissent from that part setting for the Measures taken with respect to the late Revolution. Their Sentiments are entered in the Consultation of the 8th January 1761. The Governor Colonel Calliaud and the other Gentlemen of the Council who approved of the Measures have entered a Minute on the face of the Consultation of the 12th Janry. in answer to the Minutes of Mesrs. Amyatt, Ellis & Smyth; to that Minute you will please to be referred for a reply to the proceeding [*sic*] paragraph.

197. In consequence of a request of the Gentlemen at Madrass that Col. Calliaud might be present at the Siege of Pondicherry to succeed to the command of the Army in Case of an Accident to Cell. Coote; the Board, during the Governor's absence at Murshudabad, sent [him] an order to Patna to come down to Calcutta and proceed to the Coast. The Governor on his return set forth the situation of Affairs in the Country and the absolute necessity there was of the Colls. going up to Patna to fulfill Engagements he had enter'd into with the Zemmadaurs of the Nabobs Army and proposed the leaving it to the Colonels own determination whether it was necessary for Him to stay in Bengall or not. It was debated in Council in the consultation of 10th Novr. where the opinions of the Board are entered at Large and the Majority determining he should proceed to Patna, for that time, but return to Calcutta so as to arrive in time to set out for the Coast, in order to be present at the Siege of Pondicherry he was ordered accordingly. In consequence of the orders sent him he made over the Commands of the Troops at Patna to Major Carnac and come [*sic*] down to Calcutta, and having on the 12th Inst. taken leave of the Board, he took his passage for Madrass on the Godolphin, in consideration for his services whilst in Bengall, we Esteemed the Thanks o

the Board a Complement due to his Merit and Address'd him in a Letter to that purpose.

198. The Custom Master transmits in the Packett the Register of Dusstucks from September 1759, The registers before that Time having been already sent home.

199. The Committee appointed to make a Statement of the Accounts with the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn on the 12th January laid the same before the board in regular Form of Journal and Ledger, together with a report containing remarks upon every Article of the accounts of Ballance, Profit and Loss and General Books by which the rest are Closed. The said Journal and Ledger are Transmitted to your Honors in the Packett and the report of the Committee is entered on the Face of our Consultations. These being, quite compleat we beg leave to refer you to them, and doubt not they will give you full Satisfaction.

200. The following Articles of the Profit and loss account we are of Opinion should be charge'd to all the Concern'd proportionately [*sic*] viz.

Lost by Jewels
By Cloth
By Batta

This supposed there will yet remain a sufficient Balance due to the Account of European Sufferers to pay the further Dividend of $7\frac{1}{2}$ P. Cent resolved to be allowed them as mentioned in our Address dated 29th December 1759 and we purpose accordingly to discharge the same and to the Other[s] Concerned as far as the respective Funds will Extend.

201. With respect to the Ballance that will yet be left upon the Several Accounts as well as the sum reserved on the account of commission we request to be favoured with your very particular Orders, and we take the Liberty further to recommend to you to take the advice of Council, how far the Company have a right to decide in this Affair, that neither the Company, nor we acting in their behalf may be subjected to any disputes at Law with the, Concerned.

202. It seems by the 7th Article of the Treaty with Jaffier Ally Cawn an exact Translate of which attested by the President and Council is enclosed in this packet, that he left the disposal of the whole, to the Admiral, Colonel Clive, and the rest of the Council, but Col. Clive, Mr. Watts and other Gentlemen fully acquainted with all the particulars, being now in England you will be able to obtain from them all the further Information that may be Necessary.

203. The Commissioners for examining the Account of the European Sufferers having adjusted all the Claims that had been laid before them, are [and?] no fresh ones having Appeared for some time, in order to bring the affair to a Conclusion we determined to dissolve their Commission on the

1st of Sept. of which publick Notice was Given, our Authority for which the Gentlemen commissioned in their Letter of 9th Sept. Seemed not to admit, how far our Authority extends in this respect, we request your Opinion. The Matter Standing thus, The Governor and Council having for that purpose called together all the Inhabitants desired them to chuse out of their own Body a Certain Number of Commissioners for settling the Claims that might be made on the restitution fund; Mr. Cruttenden on behalf of the Body of the Inhabitants, thanking the Gentlemen of Council for the Complement, desir'd they would themselves Nominate Commissioners being the best Judges who were the properest persons for that Change [charge]. The Governor and Council accordingly appointed Mr. Cruttenden and twelve other Gentlemen and from time to time filled up the Vacancies that have happened in that Number by the Departure of any of the first Named.

204. The 100 Paragraph of this Letter concerning the Measurement of Lands is Erroneous, owing to a Mistake in the 76 paragraph of our Last Years Letter wherein it is mentioned that on the Measurement of six Pergunnahs there appeared a Gain or Increase of 72240 Begahs—this calculate was made by Mr. Frankland on a rough Estimate, only a part of these Pergunnahs being then measured, We have since Compleatly Finish'd the Measurement of the Pergunnahs of Causpoor and Maugurah on which there is really a Gain of 54213-Begahs 10 Cottahs—as will appear on the Face of the Consultation of the 26th of June. We are now going on with the Examining four Pergunnahs and hope to be able to send you a satisfactory and full Account of their Measurement likewise.

205. The President having had reason to suspect the Conduct of Nundecomar, a person to whom we had given protection and who was formerly Employed in our Service in some Affairs with the Country Government, narrowly watched his Behaviour and at last discovered a Letter from the said Nundecomar to the Rajah of Burdawan by which it appears a secret correspondence has subsisted between him and the Rajah and likewise between the Rajah and Roydoolub, Immediately on the Letters being found it was thought proper to place Guards on the Persons of Roydoolub Nundecomar and their principal adherents and to seize their papers. In our Consultation of the 13th Inst. you will observe those two Persons were called before us and examined and their Papers delivered over to Mr. Hastings Inspection who is to lay before us whatever he finds relative to the charge against them. We have great reason to hope we have now discovered one of the Hidden Sources that gave rise to the Burdawan Rajahs unexpected Rebellion or at least fomented it; and that once stop'd we doubt not to be able to bring him back to a sense of his Duty. In the meantime we will continue our Enquiries and take such Measures with the Offenders as we shall find adequate to their Intentions against us.

206. Mr. Ellis esteemed it necessary to enter a minute in our Consultation of the 16th Inst. in reply to the Minute of the Governor, Colonel and

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other Gentlemen of Council who approved of the late Measures as mentioned in Paragraph 196 of this Letter.

207. On the Royal Duke we have laden sundry Goods as P. Invoice and Bill of Lading enclos'd amounting to CRs. 694000. We wish her a safe and speedy passage to your Honors & are.

Fort William

16th January 1761.

[Duplicate]

May it please your Honors
Your faithful humble Servants

Henry Van Sittart/P. Amyatt/W. Ellis/
Wm. B. Sumner/H. Smyth/Culling Smith.

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LETTER DATED 16 JANUARY 1761*

Defeat of Raja of Birbhum.

TO the Hon'ble the Secret Committee for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Compy. of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble Sirs

Since closing the Accompanying Address We had the pleasure to learn by a letter from the Nabob that the Beerboun Rajah abandon'd his Capital upon the approach of Major Yorke and has made his escape into the Wood. The Nabob has taken possession of the Capital & will leave a force for the Collection of the Revenues and Regulation of that Country and proceed to Patna with a part of our Detachment.

We are with the Greatest Respect
Hon'ble Sirs

Fort William,

the 18th January 1761.

[Duplicate]

Your most Obedient humble Servants
Henry Van Sittart/P. Amyatt/ W. Ellis/
Wm. B. Sumner.

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LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1761

Shah Alam defeated and Mons. Law taken prisoner.

TO the Honourable the Court of Directors

*Duplicate letter is dated 18th January 1761, a copyist's error *vide* Letter from Court, dt. 30 September 1761, para 2.

Honourable Gentlemen

I send this express down the River in hopes of its reaching the Royal Duke, and giving you as early as possible the News of a compleat Victory gain'd by your Army at Patna the 15th Inst. over the Shawzada, and all his Adherents This agreeable News is just come to my hands by a Letter from Major Carnac which mentions that Mr. Law with the most part of his Detachment are Prisoners and all his Guns taken.

Accept my Congratulations on this happy Event, and my Assurances that the best use shall be made of this Success towards restoring good order and Tranquility to these Provinces.

I remain with the utmost Respect,
Honourable Gentlemen

Fort William

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

23d January 1761.

Henry Van Sittart.

16

LETTER DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1761

Protection granted to Shah Alam—fall of Pondicherry.

TO the Hon'ble the Secret Committee for affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Hon'ble Sirs

1. agreeable news of Major Carnac's having defeated the Shawzadah and taken Monsr. [Law] with the major part of his Detachment, arriving after our Dispatches by the Royal Duke were gone down, was communicated to your Honors in a Letter from the President, which We since find reach'd the Ship.

2. We have now the pleasure to acquaint you, that the Major, pushing his success & closely pursuing the Prince, has reduced him to the necessity of withdrawing from his weak Dependants and throwing himself upon Us for protection; which the Major in a Letter dated at Gyah the 8th. Instant informs us he had that day done.

3. The immediate good consequences of this change in affairs, will be, the freeing the Country from the Troubles with which it has so long been distressed, Enabling the Nabob peaceably to collect the Revenues, regulate the Affairs of the Patna¹ province, effectually reduce to obedience the Rajahs of Burdawan, Midnapoor &ca. and thereby facilitate the collection of the

Revenues assigned to the Company: But our future Resolutions with respect to the Shawzadah must depend on the succours We may receive from the Coast, and the assurances He can give of the resources he can rely on for Men and Money.

4. But should Col. Coote come down to the Bay with his Battalion agreeable to his Original destination, which we have now reason to think he may, and the Prince should make it appear to us that our escorting him to Delhy, and placing him upon the Throne of his Ancestors [*sic*] shall be attended with benefites and advantages to the Company, without their being burthened with any part of the Expence of the Expedition, We at present see no Objection to Our engaging in such an Enterprize; but Your Honors may be assured nothing of this Nature shall be attempted but on our being thoroughly convinced after maturely weighing all the Circumstances that there is the greatest prospect of its ending to the Honor & Advantage of the Company.

5. In the Interim the Prince is to remain under our protection with an Allowance of a thousand Rupees P. day for his Maintenance, which We shall take care to have defray'd by the Nabob.

6. On the Ninth Instant We had the Satisfaction to receive from the Gentlemen at Madrass an account of the Surrender of Pondicherry on the 15th Ultimo, the particulars of which were to be transmitted by the London Snow, which was to be dispatch'd for that purpose, but if any accident should happen to her, You will find Copys of the Papers which passed betwixt Col. Coote and Genl. Lally enter'd on the Face of our Consultation, and beg leave to congratulate you, on this most important Acquisition, which will we doubt not effectually reduce the power of the French in these parts of the World, and We hope will prove the means of the Company's being reimburs'd the immense Sums which have been Advanced in support of the Nabob of Arcot.

We have the honor to be with perfect Respect

Hon'ble Sirs

Your most obedient & faithful Humble
Servants

Fort William
February the 20th 1761.

Henry Van Sittart/ P. Amyatt/ W. Ellis/
Wm. B. Sumner

LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1761

Revenue from Chittagong—Burdwan Raja compelled to make payments to the Company—Midnapore ravaged by the Marathas—Carnac's victory over Shah Alam—H. M. Squadron damaged by storm before fall of Pondicherry—plan of work by Committee

of New Lands—withdrawal of Balasore factory—bills of exchange—Raidurlabh exonerated and Nandakumar warned—ban on opium trade with Sumatra enforced.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it Please Your Honors

1. Our address P Royal Duke under the Established heads was dated the 16th January a Duplicate is now enclosed together with a Triplicate of our Letter of last Season P Duke of Dorset dated the 3rd March.

2. The Royal Duke was dispatched by our Deputy Master Attendant and left the River the 25th Ultimo with a fair Wind.

3. Since our last we have had the Pleasure to receive a Letter from Mr. Verelst and Council at Chittigong advising of their Arrival there, and of their having Possession of that Country without Molestation—The Nabob's Fougedar was settling Accounts with them and they hoped soon to transmit us a compleat account, in the mean time they advise that the Revenues from the 1st October to 23rd December amount to upwards of two Lacks of Rupees, of which they had reced. a part, they had remitted 50,000 Rs. to the Gentlemen at Dacca, and 25,000 Rs. to Luckypore and have orders to send further Supplies to those Places to forward the Investment for the ensuing Year.

4. The Burdawan Rajah sent several Payments of Money but in such small proportions that from them and his Letters it appeared to us his intentions were very evasive, this determined us to send a Member of the Board to Burdawan to oblige the Rajah to conform to his Agreement and we had accordingly appointed Mr. Sumner to that Business but the Rajah terrify'd by the Danger that now threatened his Authority gave stronger Proof of his Submission by immediately sending 125,000 Rs. and entreating that we would lay aside our determination engaging solemnly to send his principal Vakee to Calcutta and to pay the Stipulated Kist. Mr. Sumners setting out is therefore suspended for the present but he will proceed before the Expiration of the Current Bengal Year in order to examine into the real produce of the Country and prove whether the Rajahs Computation is Just.

5. Mr. Johnstone was examining into the State of the Midnapoor Country and collecting the Revenues at Midnapoor when a large party of Marhattas joined by some of the Hill Rajahs surrounded the Fort, which we find to be only an old Enclosure of Mud Banks open now in many Places, in this Situation he remained for several Days greatly distressed for want of Provisions, but defending himself with equal good Conduct and Bravery, upon the first News of his Condition we detach'd Lieut White with a small party of Europeans and Seepoys to his relief, they soon joyned him and drove off the Marhattas, who had before that entirely destroyed the Town of Midnapoor and committed great Ravages in the Country. Mr. Johnstone's Conduct in

the defence of Midnapoor as well as his diligence in enquiring into the Nature of the Revenues of that Province, we think highly merit your Approbation.

6. On the 15th Ultimo Major Carnac obtained a Compleat Victory over the Shazadda on the Banks of the River Sewan, near Bahar, The capture of Monsr. Law with all his Cannon and most of his Men was one of the considerable Advantages acquir'd in that Action, and the Consequence, we flatter ourselves will be the restoring a Perfect Tranquility to these Provinces, and the thorough Establishment of the Company's Influence in this Country, for so signal and important a Service we gave the Major the thanks of the Board and desired he would signify our Thanks and Approbation to his Army.

7. By advices from Fort Saint George, dated the 7th Ultimo we were informed his Majestys Squadroon [*sic*], met with a Melancholy Disaster in a violent Gale of Wind off Pondicherry, by the loss of the ships Duke D'Aquitaine and Sunderland foundered, and all their Crew, except a few Men lost; the Dismasting the Ships, Falmouth, America, Medway, Panther, and Liverpoole & the New castle & Queenboroughs running ashore. In the same Gale the Companys Ship Duke foundered, and Protector run ashore, By the Dukes Misfortune some battering Cannon and Stores for the service of the Siege were lost, and the Gentlemen at Fort St. George requested we would Assist them with some heavy Guns and a Quantity of Gunpowder. We accordingly were about to send on the Prince Edward Twenty large cannon and had freighted the Calcutta Snow to carry down 1000 Barrels of Gunpowder.

8. But our concerns [*sic*] for the Misfortunes Suffered on the Coast was very shortly after alleviated by the Arrival of the Sloop Tartar with Letters from the Presidency of Fort St. George advising of the Reduction of Pondicherry which surrendered to Col. Coote at Discretion on the 16th Inst. The Terms Monsr. Lally and the Inhabitants of Pondicherry demanded and Col. Cootes Answer are entered after Consultation of the 9th Instant.

9. This happy Conclusion to the long scene of War and Troubles that have infested the Coast of Coromandel; and Major Carnac's success over the Shazadda give us an opportunity of offering you our sincere Congratualtions on the occasion and our Wishes for the continuance of that prosperity that has hitherto attended your Arms in India, We flatter ourselves the steps we have taken in Contributing towards it as far as lay in our power will meet with your approbation and we on our parts beg leave to assure you that as your Interest and advantage are the principal Objects of our Desires, so nothing shall be omitted by us that will tend to their Advancement.

10. For bringing us so welcome a Message and in Consideration of much Trouble in the Service we made Captn. George Ivie of the Tartar Sloop a present of A. Rs. 2,000 wherein we doubt not of your approval.

11. It now became unnecessary to send the Guns and Gunpowder we had intouded for the Coast; however as we had actually freighted the Calcutta

Snow and put the Owners to some Expense, we employed her for carrying Provisions and put her up for Freight to Madrass.

12. We have reced. Letters from Captain[s] Pinson Bonham of the Norfolk and Benjamin Godfrey of the Duke of Richmond as late as December, advising of those Ships being safe at Mallacca where they had landed their Cargoess Treasure excepted, into the Netherland Company's warehouse, and intended to Winter. The Letters being entered after the Consultation of 16th February We beg leave to refer you to that for their Proceedings.

13. The Victoria Snow upon her return from the Negraise, was found upon Survey to be in so bad condition that it was judged her repair would amount to more than her worth and that she would sell for little above the value of her stores, We determined therefore to take out her Masts and stores and deliver the Hull to the Engineer to be sunk off that point of the New Fort where the River has made a considerable Encroachment, as some help towards the Foundation of a Pier which seems absolutely necessary to be raised there.

14. It has been represented to us that the Gunpowder sent out this season is so bad that a third of each Barrell is lost in Sifting; we are to request your Honors will cause a particular regard to be had to an Article in which so much Depends especially as what is made in this country cannot be relied on for the use of the Musquetry in time of Action.

15. The Committee of New Lands have met and settled a Plan for keeping the Accounts of those Revenues. They propose to Keep a regular set of Books in which all the Moneys received shall be placed to the credit of the respective Provinces, as Burdawan Province, Chittagong Province, Midnapoor Province and Calcutta Province which last will contain all that has hitherto been put to the account of New Lands being the Zemindary granted to the Company by the Nabob Jaffair Ally Cawn. The respective charges will be put in like manner to the several Provinces in the Books of the Committee and in your General Books all sums received on account of any of the before mentioned Revenues will be placed to the head of Committee of New Lands which will be wrote off at the end of every Year To Revenues.

16. The said Committee will take under Consideration the 150th Paragraph of Your Commands of 1st April 1760 relative to the Charity Lands and will strictly examine the Tenure by which every Parcel is held; so that at the Expiration of the present Term of the Farms (the 1st May 1762) as many of them as are found false or unreasonable may revert to the Company.

17. To this time we have received from Burdawan Province about 200,000& one Lack and a half is on the Way. Midnapore Province reced. here about.....10,000 & by Mr. Johnstone as much more Chittigong Province remitted as before mentioned to Daux and Luckypore....75,000.

18. The Gentlemen at Cossimbuzar have not yet Transmitted us a compleat account how much they have received of the five Lacks and fifty seven thousand rupees (557000) the Nabob ordered Royroyan to pay them, but we believe the whole is nearly discharged. They have remitted two and a half Lacks to Patna for the supply of the Army and the occasion of that Factory. We have ordered them to make further remittances to Patna and permitted them to employ for the present One Lack to forward the Investment of Raw Silk for the ensuing Year.

19. As there is no prospect of disposing of the Jewels given by the Old Nabob as part security for his Debt, either in Calcutta, or in the City We have recommended to the Nabob to use his endeavours to raise Money upon them from the Merchants or otherwise provide for the discharge of the old Balance according to the Kistbunda. We have received from the Fougedar of Houghly the amounts of the order mentioned in the 84th Paragraph of our last address also the further sum of Twenty five thousand Rupees upon a second order.

20. We had deferred sending any Considerable supplies to the Subordinate Factories and Aurungs in order to assist the Presidency of Fort St. George with all the Money we could Possibly spare, but upon advices received of the wished for Success of the operations against Pondicherry we flatter ourselves they will be amply supplied from the Country, and we have therefore begun to make advances of Money and shall use our endeavours to procure as large an Investment as possible for the ensuing Year.

21. The Marhattas at Ballasore behaving with much Insolence and making very high and unreasonable Demands on our Factory of Duties, Present &c—and threat[c]ning in case of refusal to plunder and destroy it, we recalled Mr. Burdett from thence and have withdrawn the Factory as the expence greatly exceeds the advantage arising from it as to the Investment. Mr. John Bristow however remains there to endeavour to Collect in the outstanding Ballances from the Weavers, and is to return to Calcutta whenever that Business is effected, But as it is necessary some Person should reside there to forward Packets to and from the Coast, we have ordered the Company Moonshey to remain for that Purpose.

22. We have paid off the Division of $7\frac{1}{2}$ P Cent Interest on the restitution to the European Sufferers as in Consultation of the 9th Inst. giving Bonds for all claims for or exceeding CRs. 1000....and discharging all under with ready Money and as we find there yet remain some claims on the restitution fund unsettled, we have directed the Commissioners of Restitution to continue their Examination.

23. We have granted by this Ship the following 31 Sets of Bills of Exchange at 2s 4d the Current Rupee amounting to Current Rupees 35343-4 or £sterg. 4122-17-3 payable ninety days sight.

One sett for thirty five pounds sterling payable to Mr. William Tuckey or order for current rupees three hundred received here of Mr. Edward Tuckey.

One sett for fifty two pounds ten shillings sterling , payable to Mr. John Puttam or order for current rupees, five hundred and forty, received here of Mr. John Puttam.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling payable to Miss Mc. Dowal Alves or order for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven, two Annas and three pice received here of Captn. Walter Alves.

One sett for fifty pounds sterling payable to Mrs. Suzh. Passavant or order for current rupees four hundred and twenty eight, nine annas and three pice received here of Mr. Fitzowen Jones.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling payable to the Reverend Mr. John Mapletoft or order, for current rupees eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice received here, of Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft.

One sett for two hundred pounds sterling payable to Mr. Alexr. Dresdale or order for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four Annas and six pice, received here of Mr. Edward Bibb.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling payable to Mrs. Elizabeth Howitt or order for current for rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven two annas and three pice, received here of Mr. Samuel Howitt.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling payable to Mr. William Heathcote or order for current rupees, Eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice received here of Mr. John Wood account Mr. John Reed.

One sett for fifty pounds sterling payable to Mrs. Mary Batson or order for current rupees, four hundred and twenty eight, nine annas and three pice received here of Mr. Anselm Beaumont.

One sett for one hundred and ninety four pounds, six shillings and ten pence sterling payable to Mr. John Le Gros or order current rupees, one thousand sixteen hundred and sixty five, twelve annas & six pice received here of Mr. James Barton.

One sett for three hundred pounds sterling payable to Mr. John Scotland or order for current rupees two thousand five hundred and seventy one, seven annas received here of Mr. William Magee on account of Ensign James Scotland.

One sett for sixty pounds sterling payable to Mr. Sam, and Mrs. Ann Bennett or order for current rupees five hundred and fourteen, four Annas six pice, received here of Mr. Charles Bennett.

One sett for one hundred and forty pounds seven [shillings]and one penny sterling, payable to Mr. Richard Barwell or order for current rupees one thousand two hundred and twenty three annas received here of Mr. Richard Barwell.

One sett for thirty four pounds three shillings and six pence payable to Charles Raymond Esqre. or order for current rupees two hundred and ninety two, fourteen annas and nine pice received here of Captn. Thomas Fenwic.

One sett for Thirty pounds sterling payable to Mrs. Anna Jolly or order for current rupees, two hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice received here of Mr. John Dyer.

One sett for thirty pounds sterling payable to Mrs. Elizabeth Hart or order for current rupees Two hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice received here of Mr. John Dyer.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling payable to Mrs. James Journey or order for current rupees, eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice, reced. here of Harry Smyth Esqre. account Mr. Samuel Middleton.

One sett for one hundred and seventy three pounds sterling fifteen shilling payable to Robert Scott Esqre. or order for current rupees one thousand four hundred and eighty nine four annas and nine pice received here of Mr. Robert Gregory.

One sett for one hundred and ninety four pounds four shillings sterlin payable to Mr. Francis Perry or order for current rupees, one thousand six hundred and sixty three received here of Mr. Robert Gregory account Lieutenant Ambroze Perry.

One sett for nineteen pounds fourteen shillings and ninepence sterling payable to George Gray and Henry Allan Esqrs. or either of their orders for current rupees one hundred and sixty nine, two annas and nine pice received here of Messrs. George Gray and William Magee.

One sett for one hundred and fifty nine pounds, two shillings and five pence sterling payable to George Gray or Henry Allan Esqrs. or either of their orders for current rupees, one thousand three hundred and sixty three, fourteen annas and three pice received here of Mesrs. George Gray and William Magee.

One sett for one hundred and eighteen pounds eight shillings and nine pence payable to George Gray and Henry Allan Esqrs. or either of their orders for current rupees, one thousand and fifteen three annas received here of Mesrs. Geo Gray and William Magee.

One sett for five hundred and seventy two pounds seven shillings and four pence sterling payable to George Gray and Henry Allan Esqrs. or either of their orders for current rupees, four thousand nine hundred and six, three annas received of Mesrs. George Gray and William Magee.

One sett for, one hundred and thirty four pounds, six shillings and ten pence sterling payable to Geo. Gray and Henry Allan Esqrs. or either of their orders, for current rupees, one thousand one hundred and fifty five, fifteen shillings sterling [*sic*] received here of Mesrs. George Gray and William Magee.

One sett for ninety pounds fourteen shillings and five pence sterling payable to Mesrs. Le Gros and L'Cras or either of their orders for current rupees seven hundred and seventy seven, nine annas and six pice received here of Mr. James Barton.

One sett for one hundred pounds sterling payable to Mr. James Barton or order for current rupees eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas, three pice received here of Mr. James Barton.

One sett for two Hundred pounds payable to Mr. David Duncambe for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four annas, six pice received here of Mr. William Gunn.

One sett for two hundred pounds sterling payable to Mr. David Duncambe or order for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen four annas, six pice received here of Mr. William Hayward.

One sett for Two hundred pounds sterling payable to Mr. David Duncombe or order for current rupees, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four annas, six pice received here of Mr. David Duncombe.

One sett for one hundred and twenty six pounds sterling payable to Captain John Mills or order for current rupees, One thousand and eighty received here of Mr. Charles Child.

One sett for, one hundred and fifty six pounds sterling payable to Mr. John Whitelock or order for current rupees, one thousand three hundred and thirty seven, two annas, three pice, received here of Mr. Oliver Cromwell Webb on account of Mr. Parker Hatley.

24. We have likewise granted the following 84 setts of Bills at 2s. 4d for every current rupee payable at three hundred and sixty five days sight, Interest to commence thereon at 4 P Cent P Annum after the Expiration of 90 days—The whole eighty four setts amounting to Current Rupees 816,469-7-9 or £sterg. 9525-4-11.

One sett for five Thousand one hundred pounds sterling payable to William Fullerton Esqre. or order for current rupees Forty three thousand seven hundred and fourteen, four Annas, six Pice received here of William Fullerton Esqre.

One sett for One Thousand, five hundred Pounds sterling, payable to Joseph Fowke Esqre. or order for current rupees, Twelve thousand eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas, three pice received of Mr. George Gray.

One sett for Two hundred and twenty pounds sterling, eleven shillings and eleven pence payable to Mr. Thos. King or order for current rupees One thousand eight hundred and ninety nine six Annas, three Pice, received here of Mr. Thos. Cooke, account the Estate of John Pickering. deced.

One sett for Three hundred and one Pounds sterling, seven shillings and one penny, payable to Charles Douglas Esqre. or order for current rupees Two thousand, five hundred and eighty nine, three Annas, three Pice, received here of Mr. Thos. Cooke.

One sett for Nine hundred and twenty one pounds, eighteen shilling, and two pence, payable to Mr. Andrew Moffatt, or order for current rupees, seven thousand nine hundred and two, one Anna and three Pice reced. here of Captain James Moffatt.

One sett for one hundred and fifty Pounds sterling, payable to Captn. John Mills, or order for current rupees, one thousand two hundred and eighty five, Eleven annas, six pice reced. here of Mr. Charles Child.

One sett for Two hundred and thirty three Pounds, two shillings and seven pence sterling, payable to Jacob Moses and Raphael Franco or order for current rupees, One thousand, nine hundred and ninety eight, four Annas received here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for, forty six pounds, ten shillings sterling payable to Messrs. Isaac Mendezzd' Costa and Nunes Brothers, or order for current rupees, three hundred and ninety eight, nine annas, received here of Wm. Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for Eighteen pounds, seven shillings and a penny, sterling payable to Mr. Judah Supino, or order for current rupees, one hundred and fifty seven five annas, received here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for Eighty five pounds, eleven shillings and eight pence sterling, payable to Mr. Joseph Salvadore or order, for current rupees, seven hundred and thirty three, eight annas, three pice reced. here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for one hundred and twelve pounds, ten shillings and three pence sterling, payable to Thos. Godfrey Esqre. or order for current rupees nine hundred and sixty four, six annas, nine pice, received here of William Brightwell [Sumner?] and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for fourteen pounds, nineteen shillings sterling payable to James Adams Esqre. or order for current rupees, one hundred and twenty eight two Annas, nine Pice, received here of William B. Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for thirteen pounds, seven shillings and two pence sterling payable to Thos. Saunders Esqre. or order for current rupees, one hundred and fourteen, eight annas received here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for seventy three pounds, three shillings and seven pence sterling, payable to Adam Dawson Esqre. or order for current rupees, six hundred and twenty seven, four annas, received here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for two hundred and sixty two pounds, sixteen shillings sterling payable to John Cooke Esqre. or order for current rupees, two thousand two hundred and fifty two, nine annas received here of Wm. Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs. account the estate of Robert Bing, deceased.

One sett for two hundred and fifty five pounds eighteen shillings sterling, payable, to William Frankland or order for current rupees, two thousand

one hundred and ninety three, seven annas, nine pice received here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for one thousand one hundred and twenty three pounds, eleven shillings and six pence sterling payable to Charles Manning[ham?] and William Frankland Esqrs. or order for current rupees, nine thousand six hundred and thirty, eleven annas and three pice, received here of William Brightwell Sumner and Culling Smith Esqrs.

One sett for three thousand and seventy nine pounds, four shillings and four pence sterling, payable to Thos. Holme Esqre. or order for current rupees three thousand two hundred and fifty, four Annas, nine Pice received here of Willm. Brightwell Sumner Esqre.

One sett for twenty four Pounds, twelve shillings and four pence sterling, payable to Thos. Holme Esqre. or order for current rupees two hundred and eleven, and three pice, received here of William Brightwell Sumner Esqre.

One sett for Two hundred and forty Pounds, three shillings one penny sterling, payable to Richard Beecher and Thomas Boddam Esqrs. or order for current rupees, Two thousand and fifty eight, seven annas, six Pice, received here of Mr. William Magee account the Estate of Mesrs. Jenks and Rively, Deced.

One sett for eight hundred and thirty nine Pounds, sixteen shillings sterling payable to William Davis, Charles Whaley and William Birch Esqrs or order for current rupees, seven thousand and one hundred and ninety eight, four annas, six pice, received of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre.

One sett for Two hundred and forty one Pounds, one shilling sterling, payable to Hugh Bailey Esqre. or order for current rupees two thousand and sixty six, two annas, three pice, received here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre.

One sett for three hundred and thirteen pounds, twelve shillings and eight pence sterling payable to William Davis Esqre. or order for current rupees, two thousand and six hundred and eighty eight, four annas, nine pice, received of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre. account restitution to Sundry Sufferers.

One sett for, Two thousand four hundred and forty six pounds, seven shillings and eight pence sterling payable to Edward Holden Cruttenden Esqre. for current rupees twenty thousand nine hundred and sixty nine received here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for eight pounds twelve shillings and three pence sterling payable to Mr. George Meard or order for current rupees, seventy three, thirteen annas, and three pice, received here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for one hundred and thirty four pounds one shilling and four pence steling payable to Mr. Andrew Moffatt, or order for current rupee

one thousand one hundred and forty nine, two annas, three pice, received here of Mr. William Fullerton account David Robertson.

One sett for one hundred and forty eight pounds eight shillings sterling, payable to Mr. William Nixon or order for Ct. Rupees, one thousand two hundred and seventy two, received here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for two hundred and eighty six pounds eleven shillings and ten pence sterling, payable to Mr. Thomas Townshend or order for current rupees, two thousand four hundred and fifty six, eight annas, received here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for sixteen pounds, five shillings and eleven pence sterling, payable to Mr. Thomas Rich or order for current rupees, one hundred and thirty nine, eleven annas, received here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for one hundred and forty six pounds nineteen [shillings] and ten pence sterling, payable to Mr. William Fullerton or order for current rupees one thousand two hundred and fifty nine, fifteen Annas, three pice, received here of Mr. Wilm. Fullerton account the Estate of James Valicourt, Deceased.

One sett for forty eight pounds, thirteen shillings sterling, payable to Mr. William Fullerton or order for current rupees four hundred and seventeen received here of him, account the Estate of Mr. Tidcombe, Deceased.

One sett for one hundred and eighteen pounds, eighteen shillings and four pence sterling, payable to Mr. Wilm. Mackett Esqre. or order for current rupees, one thousand and seventeen, two annas, six pice, received here of Mr. William Fullerton account the Estate of George Minchin Deceased.

One sett for, three thousand seven hundred and eighty pounds sterling, payable to Mr. William Frankland Esqre. or order for current rupees, thirty two thousand four hundred, received here of William Brightwell Sumnes Esqre.

One sett for, five thousand eight hundred and thirty three pounds, six [shillings] and eight pence sterling, payable to Robert Clive Esqre. or order for current rupees, fifty thousand received here of Mr. Thomas Amphlett.

One sett for, two thousand five hundred, payable to Francis Forde and Caleb Powell Esqrs. or order for current rupees, twenty one thousand, four hundred and twenty eight, nine annas, three pice received here of Mr. Thomas Amphlett, account Captn. John Badbridge.

One sett for seventeen pounds, three shillings and eight pence sterling, payable to Mr. William Mc. Ridie or order for current rupees, one hundred and fortyseven, four annas, six pice received here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for, eight pounds, five shillings and ten pence sterling, payable to Mr. Thos. Browne or order for current rupees, seventy one, one anna, and six pice, received here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for, four thousand, two hundred pounds payable to James Adams, Henry Brougham William Waller Esqres. or either of their orders for Current rupees, thirty six thousand, received here of Samuel Waller Esqre.

One sett for, two thousand, three hundred and eighty four pounds, sixteen shillings and a penny sterling, payable to David Rannie Esqre. or order for current rupees, twenty thousand four hundred and forty one, three annas, reced. here of Culling Smith and Anselm Beaumont Esqrs.

One sett for, four hundred and fourteen, four shillings and eight pence sterling, payable to Mesrs. Gammon and Challener for current rupees, three thousand, five hundred and fifty, nine annas, three pice, received here of Mr. Anselm Beaumont.

One sett for, two [hundred] and thirty three pounds, six shillings and eleven pence sterling, payable to Mrs. Catherine Beaumont or order for current rupees, Two thousand, one anna and six pice received here of Mr. Anselm Beaumont, account Estate of William Dogan, Deceased.

One sett for, three hundred and seventy three pounds, four shillings and three pence, payable to Joseph Peter Godfrey Esqre. or order for current rupees, three thousand one hundred and ninety eight, fifteen annas, three Pice, received here of Mr. Anselm Beaumont, account Robert Orme.

One sett for one hundred and forty two pounds, fifteen shillings and ten pence sterling, payable to Captn. Henry Fletcher, or order for current rupees, one thousand, two hundred and twenty three, fourteen annas, nine pice, received here of Mr. Anselm Beaumont.

One sett for, two thousand one hundred and ninety six pounds, eighteen shillings and ten pence sterling, payable to Richard Bouchier Esqre. or order for current rupees, eighteen thousand, eight hundred and thirty, fourteen annas, nine pice, received here of John Zeph. Holwell Esqre.

One sett for, one thousand one hundred and nine pounds, four shillings and two pence sterling payable to Captn. Francis Flaction or order for current rupees, nine thousand, five hundred and seven, eight annas, reced. here of Mrs. Ann Yorke Executrix to Mr. Rider, deceased.

One sett for seventy four pounds, three shillings and three pence, payable to Captn. James Ward, or order for current rupees, six hundred and thirty five, eleven annas, three pice, received here of Mrs. Ann Yorke, Executrix, to Mr. Rider, deceased.

One sett for, twenty five pounds, nine shillings and ten pence sterling payable to Captn. John Francis Paschoud, or order for current rupees, two hundred and eighteen, eight annas, three pice, received here of Mrs. Ann Yorke, Executrix to Mr. Rider, deceased.

One sett for, nine hundred and forty eight pounds, sixteen shillings and seven pence sterling, payable to John Hallett Esqre., or order for current rupees, eight thousand one hundred and thirty two, thirteen annas received here of William Brightwell Sumner Esqre. account Captain George Wilson.

One sett for, four thousand nine hundred pounds sterling, payable to Mr. William Fullerton, or order for current rupees, forty two thousand, received here of Mr. Wilm. Fullerton.

One sett for, eighty six pounds, nineteen shillings and six pence sterling, payable to Mr. William Nixon or order for current rupees, seven hundred and forty five, eight annas, received here of Mr. William Fullerton.

One sett for, two thousand and fifty six pounds, seven shillings, and eight pence sterling, payable to Mr. George Wilson, or order for current rupees, seventeen thousand, six hundred and twenty six, two annas, three pice, received here of George Wilson.

One sett for four hundred and ninety six pounds, eleven shillings and seven pence sterling, payable to Mr. Edward Walsby, or order for current rupees, four thousand, two hundred and fifty six, six annas, three pice, received of Mr. Francis Charlton, account Captn. Brooke Samson.

One sett for, four hundred and sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, payable to Messrs. Robert and Henry Drummond, or order for current rupees, four thousand, received here of Mr. Francis Charlton, account the estate of Thos. Cochran, Deced.

One sett for five thousand four hundred and fifty two pounds, nine shillings and ten pence sterling, payable to Mr. William Barwell, Junr. Esqre. or order for current rupees, forty six thousand, seven hundred and thirty five, ten annas, six Pice, received here of Mr. Richard Barwell, in full returns for two chests of coral marked W.B. No. 4 & 5, imported P Ships Storemount & Houghton.

One sett for two thousand pounds, payable to Captn. John Durand, or order for current rupees, seventeen thousand, one hundred and forty two, thirteen annas, nine pice, received here of Mr. Thos. Cooke.

One sett for seventy six pounds, six shillings and ten pence sterling, payable to Mrs. Eliz Dodd or order for current rupees, six hundred and fifty four, five annas, six pice, received here of Mrs. Ann Yorke, Executrix to Wilm. Rider deceased, account the Estate of John Dodd, Deced.

One sett for, thirteen pounds, two shillings and six pence sterling, payable to Mr. Samuel Mercer, or order for current rupees, one hundred and twelve, eight annas, three pice, received here of Mr. Edward Tuckey amount the estate of Willis Orr, deceased.

One sett for, two thousand, five hundred and eleven pounds, twelve shillings and nine pence sterling payable to Charles Raymond Esqre. for current

rupees twenty one thousand, five hundred and twenty eight, five annas, received here of Captn Edward Lord Chick.

One sett for, one thousand two hundred, and thirty eight pounds, five shillings and seven pence sterling, payable to Thos. Boddam Esqre. or order for current rupees, Ten thousand six hundred and thirteen, thirteen annas, six pice, received here of Mr. William Magee.

One sett for one thousand four hundred pounds sterling, payable to Joseph and Francis Fooke and John Walsh Esqrs. or orders, for current rupees twelve thousand, received here of the Hon'ble Henry Vansittart Esqre. and Mr. Peter Downes, Executors of Sophia Duncan, Deceased.

One sett for one hundred and eighty four pounds twelve shillings and two pence sterling, payable to Matthew Collett Esqre. or order for current rupees, one thousand, five hundred and eighty two, six annas, received here of Culling Smith Esqre.

One sett for, two hundred and seventy four pounds, six shillings, and eight pence sterling payable to Mr. Francis Watts, or order for current rupees, two thousand, three hundred and fifty one, six annas, nine pice, reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre.

One sett for one hundred and twenty eight pounds, one shilling and eight pence sterling payable to Benjamin Longuet and Joseph Guinand Esqres. or orders for current rupees, one thousand and ninety seven, fourteen Annas received here of Culling Smith Esqre, account Estate of Nicholas Clerembault, Deceased.

One sett for one hundred and twenty three pounds, four shillings, and seven pence sterling payable to Mesrs. George and William Cattenarks, or order for current rupees, one thousand and fifty six, three annas, nine pice, received here of Culling Smith Esqre. account Captain Alexr. Grant.

One sett for eighteen pounds, nineteen shillings and five pence sterling, payable to Mr. David De Castra, or order for current rupees, seventy six, twelve annas, six pice received here of Culling Smith and Anselm Beaumont Esqrs.

One sett for, fifty nine pounds, five shillings and one penny sterling, payable to Mr. Jacob D' Nutal Levi Sensino, or order for current rupees, five hundred and seven, fourteen annas, & six pice received here of Culling Smith and Anselm Beaumont Esqrs.

One sett for thirty two pounds, twelve shillings and four pence sterling payable to Mesrs. Abram and Jacob Franco, or order for current rupees, two hundred and seventy nine, nine annas received here of Culling Smith and Anselm Beaumont Esqrs.

One sett for twenty three pounds, ten shillings and three pence sterling, payable to Moses Franco and company, or order for current rupees, two hundred and one, eight annas, nine Pice, received here of Culling Smith and Anselm Beaumont Esqrs.

One sett for one thousand Pounds sterling, payable to Roger Drake, Beeston Long and, Roger Drake Junr. Esqrs. or either of their orders for current rupees, eight thousand five hundred & seventy one, six annas and nine pice received here of Culling Smith & Anselm Beaumont, account Roger Drake Junr. Esqre.

One sett for, Two thousand, three hundred and seventy eight pounds, eleven shillings and six pence sterling, payable to Ynyr Burgess and William Barwell Esqrs. or order for current rupees, seventy thousand, three hundred and eighty seven, twelve annas and three pice, received here of Peter Amyatt Esqre. account the estate of Mrs. Ann Peirce, deceased.

One sett for five thousand pounds sterling, payable to William Davis, Charles Whaley and William Birch Esqrs. or order for current rupees, forty two thousand eight hundred and fifty seven, two annas and three pice, received here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre.

One sett for eleven thousand, eight hundred and thirty one pounds, four shillings and five pence sterling, payable to Lawrence Sullivan Esqre, or order for current rupees, one hundred and one thousand, four hundred and ten, seven annas and three pice, reced. here of Mr. James Barton.

One sett for three hundred & thirty two pounds, three shillings and seven pence sterling payable to Mesrs. Saml. Wilson and sons, or order for current rupees, two thousand eight hundred & forty seven, four annas received here of Captn. James Moffatt.

One sett for one thousand, eight hundred & sixty six pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence sterling, payable to Mr. Andrew Moffatt or order for current rupees, sixteen thousand, received here of Captn. James Moffatt.

One sett for six hundred forty one pounds thirteen shillings and four pence sterling payable to Mr. Andrew Moffatt for current rupees, five thousand five hundred, reced. here of Captn. James Moffatt account Mrs. Martha Cummings.

One sett for one thousand four hundred pounds sterling, payable to William Waller, James Adams & Henry Brougham Esqrs. or order for current rupees, twelve thousand, received here of Saml. Waller Esqre.

One sett for, four hundred and eighty six pounds, ten shillings sterling, payable to Richard Beecher, and William Fullerton Esqre. or orders for current rupees, four thousand one hundred and seventy, received here of William Fullerton Esqre. account Elizabeth and Mary Knox.

One sett for one hundred and thirty seven pounds, five shillings and nine pence sterling, payable to Harry Knox, or order for current rupees, one thousand one hundred and seventy six, twelve annas, received here of William Fullerton Esqre.

One sett for five thousand pounds sterling payable to John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre., William Davis, Chas. Whaley and William Birch Esqrs., or

order for current rupees, forty two thousand, eight hundred, fifty seven, two annas, and three pice, received here of John Zephaniah Holwell Esqre.

One sett for four hundred and sixty nine pounds, three shillings and two, pence sterling, payable to Captn. Jno. Donellan or order, for current rupees, four thousand and twenty one, six annas, received here of Mesrs. Senior and Gould.

One sett for seven hundred and thirty three pounds five shillings and four pence sterling, payable to Richard and William Barwell Esqrs., or order for current rupees six thousand six hundred and twenty eight received here of Mesrs. Barton and Barwell.

One sett for five hundred and seventy three pounds twelve shillings and five pence sterling, payable to Captn. William Jennings and John Baker Esqrs. or order for current rupees, four thousand nine hundred and sixteen eleven annas and nine pice, received here of Culling Smith Esqre.

One sett for one thousand four hundred pounds sterling, payable to Mesrs. Joseph Creswicke and Francis Sykes, or order for current rupees, twelve thousand received here of Mr. Warren Hastings.

One sett for three hundred and sixty one pounds three shillings and four pence sterling, payable to Mr. William Forth, or order for current rupees, three thousand and ninety five, eleven annas, nine pice, received here of Culling Smith Esqre.

25. Captn. Randfurlie Knox in his letter of the 9th Inst. entered after that days Consultation requested to resign the service, to proceed to his Native Country. We could not refuse our consent to his request, as his regard to the Interest of his Employers had made him defer his intentions of going to Europe at a time when his services were wanted, we therefore in a letter of the same date signified to him, our compliance with his desire altho' his continuance in the service would be very pleasing to us, and at the same time we gave him the thanks of the Board for his past services. Soon after we had the pleasure to receive another letter from Captn. Knox, intimating that our satisfaction with his Behaviour, and our being desirous of his longer continuance in the service had induced him to wave[sic] his Resolution of going to Europe.

26. We beg leave to mention this brave Officer as highly worthy of your Favour, by his good conduct, and his indefatigable Zeal for the good of your service; which opinion we think is confirmed by this last Instance of his attachment to the Hon'ble Company.

27. Mr. Waller on the 19th Instant, resigned his seat at the Board, and returned the Company thanks for the Favours he had received in their Employ; he takes his Passage for Europe on the Latham.

28. Mr. James Barton has also resigned the service to return to Europe, his concerns there not permitting him to remain longer in India; he also proceeds on the Latham.

29. Mr. Holwell sent in a letter to the Board, minuted in Consultation of the 12th Inst. requesting payment of the Interest of a Bond . . . Principal Ten Thousand current rupees (CRs 10,000) in his Name, on account of the Widow Massey, whose distress for the want of that money he represents to be very great, As Mr. Holwell has offered to give Security for this Money should the Bond ever make its appearance, and we have no reason to doubt of the Widow Massey's Claim being Just, we have agreed to pay off the Interest, due on the Principal.

30. The Revd. Mr. Henry Butler addressed the Board for an increase of his allowance, as one of the chaplains of this Presidency, representing that the Salary of £200 P annum, and £ 30 P annum for house rent are far from being sufficient to maintain him as becomes his Station, His letter is entered after Consultation of the 19th Inst. and we beg leave to recommend his request to your Consideration.

31. We informed your Honors in our last address of the suspicions we had of Roy doolub and Nundecomars being concerned in a secret Correspondence with the Burdawan Rajah and others that were disaffected to the Company and that their Persons and Papers had been secured. We examined into all their Papers and nothing positive appearing against Roy doolub the Guard was taken off from his House—But of Nundecomars Intriguing against the Nabob's and the Company's Government in [m?]any Proofs appeared, and strong suspicion of more from the Dark and mysterious Terms in which some of the Letters are wrote—Translations of the most material Papers together with all that passed on his Examinations are transmitted to your Honors in a Book a part, to which we beg leave to refer to you and as in the present Circumstances it is not in Nundecomars Power to do any injury to your Affairs, nor can he leave the Settlement if he was so Inclined, it being our Protection alone that secures him from falling under the Displeasure of the Nabob; we have therefore contented ourselves with giving him a Caution not to engage for the future in any Affairs which do not belong to him.

32. As the Latham's dispatch was greatly retarded for want of Salt Petre, we took out, one thousand one hundred and forty Bags from the Prince Edward, and laded them upon her to hasten her.

33. Six Invalids and ten French Prisoners go on the Latham; we have caused them to sign an acknowledgement that they are Passengers and have no right to demand Wages, from the Owners of the Ship during their passage to Great Britain.

34. We have now a large Number of Bricklayers at Work upon the New Fort, and hope to get the gateways finished as well as some of the Bombproof Lodgements before the next Rains, We are much obliged to Mr. Amphlett's Assiduity and diligent attendance which he continues still to exert, although his Constitution has suffered much by the Fatigue he underwent in this Service

throughout the course of last Year. We need not add anything to these Facts to recommend him to your Honors favor and Notice.

35. We mentioned in our last address our having suspended the Prohibition of Trading in Opium to the West Coast, imagining it to be improper to lay any Restraints of that sort considering the late Misfortune which happened to those Settlements; but being informed since by a Letter from the Gentlemen at Fort St. George that the use of Opium among the Planters would be attended with bad consequences instead of encouraging the Trade. We have therefore put in Force your Directions forbidding any Opium to be exported by private Traders to the West Coast. The Leopard Snow sailed the 22nd December with fifty Chests, & we hear is safe arrived at Madrass.

36. By a letter from Fort St. George dated the 16th January, We have the pleasure to learn that the Earl Temple, York & Neptune imported at Anjengo the 13th Decr. and the London, the which last ship parted company with the Chatham Man of War off the Madeira's and with your ship the Egmont off the Cape.

37. We have shipped on board the Latham Stores for the Island of St. Helena amounting to Curr. Rupees Nine hundred & fifty five, seven annas & nine pice (CRs 955-7-9) as P Invoice, and the bill of Lading sent to the Deputy Governor & Council there.

38. We have laden on this ship, sundry Goods and Merchandize amounting to Curr. Rupees, seven hundred and twelve thousand (CRs 712,000) as P Invoice and bill of Lading enclosed in this Packett.

39. As there is nothing so likely to create a spirit of Emulation and diligence in your Servants as a favourable mention to your Honors of those who most distinguish themselves, We must therefore at this time do that Justice to Mr. Henry Goodwin who renders himself worthy of our Notice by a strict application to his Business.

Fort William
the 23rd February 1761
[Per ship *Lathan*]

We are with the Greatest Respect
May it Please your Honors
Your most faithful Servants
Henry Van Sittart/P. Amyatt/Culling Smith.

LETTER DATED 5 MARCH 1761

~~Water~~ route to Chittagong—Kharijuri pargana to be surveyed—bills of exchange,

To the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

[1.] We addressed you the 16th January by the Royal Duke which Ship left her Pilot the 25th of that month, and the 23rd of February by the Latham which Ship was dispatched from Ingellie the 2nd Inst. this waits on your Honors by the Lord Anson, to whom [*sic*] we are using our utmost diligence to give her dispatch within the Charterparty Time.

[2.] The general Books as adjusted by Mr. Magee from the year 1756 cannot be compleated to be transmitted to you at this Season as that Gentleman in his letter of the 15th December entered after that days Consultation gave us room to hope. The Journal up to April 1759 is ready, but the multiplicity of Current Business in the Accompts Office and the want of a sufficient Number of capable assistants, have prevented their being copied fair as you will please to observe in the Accomptants minute in Consultation of the 2nd Inst. Indeed the Journal only could not be satisfactory as without having the Ledger posted and the Books balanced at their proper Periods there could be no certainty of their being right. We shall make it our particular attention to have the whole quite to your Honors [satisfaction?] by the first ship of next Season. We hope to have a cargoe ready for one Ship to be dispatched to you in August or September next and have wrote accordingly to the Gentlemen at Fort St. George desiring if they should think proper upon the advices received from their supra cargoes in China to dispatch thither all the remaining charter party Ships of last season that in such case they will send hither your ship Admiral Watson to be loaded from hence in August as beforementioned being apprehensive that the Godolphin may not return from her present voyage before the 1st of October.

[3.] We, at the same time desired the Gentlemen at Fort St. George to acquaint us what assistance of Money they shall want to enable them to give Stocks to the Surplus of Ships to be dispatched to China; as we imagine they may have received from your supra cargoes such advices as will enable them to form a calculate.

[4.] The Prince Edward was dispatched to Fort St. George the 9th February with 360 Bags of Salt Petre, 2003 Bags of rice and 500 Bags of Bread shipped for the use of his Majestys Squadron by their agent here.

[5.] We have received no fresh advices from Fort St. George since those that brought us the agreeable News of the surrender of Pondicherry.

[6.] We hourly expect Mr. Scott from Chittigong. We hoped he would have arrived in time to have given us an account of his observations to be transmitted to your Honors at this season as he mentioned that he should leave that place early in February but some fresh business must have detained him longer and we must content ourselves at this time with referring you to his Letter of the 23rd January, entered after consultation of the 9th February by which you will observe that there appears to be a safe and bold passage to Chittagong along the Eastern Coast.

[7.] We have considered often & with much surprize the Tradition concerning the immense Revenue said to have been produced formerly by the Pergunnah of Corry Juree as mentioned in the 108 paragraph of the general Letter from hence dated the 31st December 1758 & taken Notice of in the 99th parah. of our commands of the 1st April 1760. If such a tradition there be and with any foundation of credit the loss must be attributed rather to an Inundation of the Sea, than to the effects of the oppressions of an arbitrary Government, at present there is not a single Inhabitant upon it nor is it esteemed possible to be inhabited. As far as can be seen it is an entire Jungle and overflow'd with every flood Tide.—In fact it produces nothing now the small revenue said to belong to it being only what is collected at a Gaut or Custom House on the River side. We shall attempt a survey of it if possible and either endeavour for account [*sic*] the Company to encourage the Inhabitants to settle and cultivate such parts as are practicable or else give a long lease of it upon the easy Terms usual in such cases to any Farmer or society of Farmers that will undertake to clear it which if such could be found we think would be best for the Company.

[8.] By this ship we have drawn on your Honors the following twelve setts of Bills of Exchange payable at 2/4 P. Current rupee and Ninety days after sight amounting to pounds sterling 1377-10-4 or CRs. 11809-4-3.

One sett for £stg. 135-6-8 payable to Mr. Richd. Sinnot or order for CRs. 1160 reced. here of Mr. James Forster.

One sett for £stg. 200, pble to Mr. David Duncombe or order for CRs. 1714-4-6 reced. here of Mr. David Duncombe.

One sett for £stg. 200, pble to Mrs. Sarah Haywood for CRs. 1714-4-6 received here of Mr. William Haywood.

One sett for £stg. 200, pble to Mrs. Sarah Haywood for CRs. 1714-4-6 received here of Mr. Joseph Bisant.

One Sett for £stg. 100, pble to Mrs. Elizth. Haywood for CRs. 857-2-3 received here of Mr. Philip Milner Dacres, acct. Mr. Saml. Howett.

One sett for £stg. 200 pble to Willm. Alexr. Esqre. and Captn. Jonathan Ranson for CRs. 1714-4-6 received here of Mr. Thomas Blaney.

One sett for £stg. 58-8 payable to John Delawal Esqre. for CRs. 432 reced. here of Mr. Thos. Amphlett account for Mr. Gilbert Ironside.

One sett for £stg. 50, pble to Mr. William Heathcote for Curt. Rupees 428-9-3 reced. here of Mr. John Wood acct Mr. Johnstone.

One sett for £stg. 100, payable to Mr. Edward Ironside for CRs. 857-2-3 reced. here of Mr. Thos. Amphlett, acct Mr. Gilbert Ironside.

One sett for £stg. 100, payable to Mr. Anselm Beaumont or order for Curt. Rupees 857-2-3 reced. here of Mr. Anselm Beaumont.

One sett for £stg. 11-15-8, payable to Mr. Geo Seton for CRs. 101 reced. here of Mr. William Magee.

One sett for £stg. 30, payable to Captn. Willm. Tryon for CRs. 257-2-3 reced. here of Mr. William Magee.

Likewise the following seven setts at 24 & 365 days amountg. to £stg. 12126-16-5 or CRs. 103943-15-6.

One sett for £stg. 5328-11 pble to Josh. Cooke Esqre. for CRs. 4563-8 reced. here of Mesrs. Hay Lushington & Gray.

One sett for £stg. 58336-8 payable to Robert Clive Esqre. for CRs. 50,000 reced. here of Mr. Thos. Amphlett.

One sett for £stg. 2333-6-8 payable to Mrs. Elizh. Margass for CRs. 20,000 reced. here of Mrs. Elizh. Margass.

One sett for £stg. 1260 payable to Mr. Herbert Pyefinch or order for CRs. 10800 reced. here of Mrs. Herbert Pyefinch acct. Estate of Geo. Dundass, deced.

One sett for £stg. 71-6-1 payable to Geo. Scott Esqre. or order for CRs. 611-2-9 reced. here of J. Z. Holwell Esqre. acct. Estate of Coll. Caroline Fred Scott deced.

One sett for £stg. 1001-14-6 pble to Mr. Willm. Forth for CRs. 8586-3-9 reced. here of Culling Smith Esqre.

One sett for £stg. 1094-13-11 payable to Thos. Boddam Esqre for CRs. 9383-1 reced. here of William Magee.

[9.] The total amount of Bills drawn upon your Honors by the Ships of this Season are as follows :

P Royal Duke	£stg.	118614-4-6	CRs.	10,16679- 1-9
P Latham	£stg.	99377-8-3	CRs.	8,51812-11-9
P Lord Anson	£stg.	13504-6-9	CRs.	1,15713- 3-9
				<hr/>
	£stg.	231,495-19-6	CRs.	19,84245- 1-3

[10.] We have laden on board the Lord Anson, fourteen hundred, twenty five Maunds of Turmerick on half Freight as P. Saperate Bill of Lading enclosed & sundry other goods & Merchandize amountg. to CRs. 860700 as P Invoice and bill of Lading enclosed.

[11.] Mr. Holwell having applied to us for an order to Captn. Chick to accommodate him with a Passage we comply'd with his request, and he proceeds on the Lord Anson.

[12.] Six invalids and ten French prisoners we have sent on board the Lord Anson and have made them sign an acknowledgement of the same Tenor with those who proceed on the Royall Duke and Latham and enclose the same in this Packett.

[13.] We must apologize to your Honors for the incorrectness of the sett of Consultations for last year, in the course of which there are some blanks unfille'd, the papers that should be entered having been mislaid, and somewhere the signing is uncomplete, Several Gentlemen of the Board having been sent to Subordinate Settlements before the Consultations were copied fair—We will not attempt an excuse for these deficiencies, which it must be confessed might be avoided by a Constant Attention, but we will hope to merit your Indulgence by taking care that all parts of the business are kept up for the future.

We are

May it please your Honors
Your faithful humble Servants

Fort William
5th March 1761.
[Triplicate]

Henry Van Sittart/P. Amyatt/
Culling Smith/Warren Hastings.

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LETTER DATED 9 MARCH 1761*

Investment to be made at Midnapore instead of Balasore.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

1. We received last night some letters from the Chief and Council at Chittagong dated the 16th Febry. which containing [*sic*] a more particular account of the Situation, Soil, and Produce of that province together with some observations upon the Advantages which may be expected to accrue from this acquisition to the commercial Interests of the Company.

We have ordered a copy to be immediately made to be enclosed herewith for your Honors perusal that you may be enabled to give us such Directions as may occur to you on the subject. We transmit likewise the Chart of the Coast received from our Master Attendant Mr. Scott.

2. Midnapoor Province being now free from troubles by the retreat of the Marhattas to Cuttack and a good force being kept there under the command of Captain Knox, We imagine the Investment formerly provided at Ballasore may for the future be carried on with equal convenience and more security at Midnapoor and have accordingly transmitted to Mr. Johnstone your list of

*Duplicate letter is dated 7 March 1761, a copyist's error *vide* Letter to Court dt. 12 November 1761 para. 1.

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investment received P. Lord Mansfield with Directions to use his endeavours to comply with it. The revenues he is appointed to collect will supply him amply with money for that purpose and the expense of Ballasore factory will be saved.

We are

Fort William

9th March 1761

May it please Your Honors
Your faithful humble Servants

Henry Van Sittart /P. Amyatt/Culling Smith

[*Enclosure*]

Extract of a Letter from Madras datd. 2nd November 1761 [*sic*].

Last night the Osterly Indiaman arrived from Fort Marlboro' with a packett from Captn. Vincent for the Governor and Council, Advising that he having embarked thirty of the Military, belonging to Fort Marlboro' on board the Osterly, he sailed for Manna, one of the Company's settlements on the west coast in order to accommodate some differences which had arose between the chiefs of that settlement, that on the 24th September being at anchor off that place, he observed a large ship dismasted which made a signal of distress, upon which he sent his third Mate with 11 of his people to their assistance but the boat not returning he imagined they had missed the ship, he therefore, weighed next morning and came under the ships stern when he could perceive that her decks were covered with men & 5 boats astern; he therefore kept aloof upon which the ship hoisted French Colours & discharged a broadside at the Osterly which happily did no execution. Captn. Vincent immediately put about for Fort Marlboro', where he disembarked the Military & accompanied them himself with an intent to defend the place to the utmost of his dower, he then loaded all the Company's treasure on board, and dispatched the Osterly with the above intelligence to Madrass.

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LETTER DATED 5 JUNE 1761

Disturbances in Burdwan ended—death of Harry Smyth, Member of Board.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

1. The President & Council of Fort St. George advising us of their intention to dispatch such Ships as they now have, from their Presidency directly to Europe; we embrace the early opportunity of addressing you.

2. The Lord Anson, the last Ship of the preceeding Season from our Settlement to Europe, left the River the March, She carried your Honors our address dated the 2d of that Month, with an additional letter dated the, her invoice amounted to `CRs. 860700.

3. We have the Satisfaction to inform you the Country now enjoys a state of perfect tranquility, which we hope will long remain without interruption, the Honble Company's Investment goes on better than we expected.

4. The Disturbances which were in Burdwan, are now happily ended, and the Rajah is brought to a proper Sense of his Duty. Mr. Sumner is with the Rajah at Burdwan regulating the Accounts of the Province, Mr. Johnstone continues at Midnapore, collecting the Revenues, and adjusting the Accounts, and Mr. Verelst and the Gentlemen at Chittagong have established the Affairs of that Province in a manner much to our Satisfaction.

5. We hope to dispatch to your Honors an early Ship from hence by the Month of August or beginning of September next, and have directed the Gentlemen at our several Subordinates, to forward their respective parts of the Investment, in time for that Dispatch. We have also wrote to the President & Council of Fort St. George to send us one of their ships for that purpose.

6. We are sorry to inform your Honors of the Demise of Mr. Harry Smyth, one of the Members of the Board, he died at Cossimbuzar the 3d Ult of a lingering Illness, his death reduces the number of the Board to twelve, including Colonel Coote, and Major Carnac, where it will remain and we will appoint no new Members till next vacancy.

7. As yet we have no accounts of the arrival of any Ships from Europe.

We are

May it please your Honors
Your faithful H'ble Servants

Fort William

5th June 1761
[Per Falmouth]

Henry Van Sittart/P. Amyatt/W. Ellis
Culling Smith

LETTER DATED 12 NOVEMBER 1761

Shipping news—reasons for permitting Prussian trade—despatch of French prisoners of war—imports from England—manufacture of gunpowder—mint administration—timber from Chittagong—arrangements for investment—Shah Alam proclaimed emperor and sanads to be obtained from him for Company's privileges in Bengal—dismissal of Ramnarayan and appointment of Rajballabh—Mir Qasim's disputes with Carnac and Coote—instructions solicited on procedure to be followed in Board—accounts of restitution and other dues from Mir Qasim—relief to French families—Dutch proposal

regarding neutrality turned down—revenues from Burdwan, Chittagong and Midnapore—progress in fortification of Fort William—commission to Vansittart on revenue of 24-Parganas—changes in personnel of Fort William Board—army establishment—continuance of double batta—compensation to Coote's regiment for difference in exchange rates—only two observations of transit of Venus made by Company's servants—bills of exchange.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

1. By the Lord Anson, the last of the Ships dispatched from this Presidency We addressed your Honors two Letters dated the 5th and 9th March. The Master Attendant was on board the Ship at Ingellee with her Dispatches the 11th of the said Month, but the Captain not being ready to receive them the Master Attendant therefore protested in due form & forwarded the said Protest with his Letter to your Secretary. It was the 18th of the Month before the said Ship was ready to receive her Dispatches when they were accordingly deliver'd & she proceeded in her Voyage with a fair Wind.

2. We have since addressed your Honors under date the 5th June
 Cons. forwarded in two Copies overland to Madras to be trans-
 5th June mitted by any Ships that might be dispatch'd from that
 Presidency.

3. We have this Year rece'd your Commands of [*sic*] dated the 5th Novr. & 31st Decr. 1760, 21st Janry. & 13th March 1761, also two Letters from Mr. Secretary James dated 30th May 1760 & 27th March 1761.

4. In answer to all which & to give your Honors a regular account of the Affairs of this Presidency, We now address you under the usual Heads P Ship Hawke and.

'First of Shipping

5. Your Ship Hawke arrived at Fort St. George the 24th May & being dispatched from thence for this Presidency arrived in this River the 23d July. On the 19th August we were advised by Capt
 23d July Ward of the arrival of the Plassey at Ingellee having
 19th Augt. fallen to Leeward of Madras she proceeded to
 Vizagapatam & from thence to Bengal in consequence of the Order she reced. from Mr. Thomas Heath the chief at that place. The Pitt arrived at Fort St. George the 23d July & was dispatched from thence to Canton the 16th August, The Earl of Holderness imported at Madras the 7th Sept. The Warren the 1st October and the Fox the 2d of the same Month but neither of those Ships are yet arrived here.

6. It was our Intention to have Dispatch'd the Hawke for Europe in the Month of September, but the Shallowness of the Channel of the River between Ingellee & Culpee was such at the Time of her Arrival

Cons. 23d July that the Pilots would not take charge to bring her up higher than Ingellee till about the 20th August, when the Freshes had clear'd away the obstructions, this occasion'd a very great Delay in the unloading of her however her Dispatches would have been ready by the 1st Instant but observing in her Charter Party a Clause providing, that in case of her being dispatched for Europe from the Bay of Bengal such Dispatches should not be deliver'd before the 21st November nor after the 11th March. We thought it necessary to write a Letter to Capt. Kent to know whether he on the part of his Owners would consent to receive his Dispatches before the Time limited, In answer to which Capt. Kent wrote to us that he could not possibly take upon himself to receive his Dispatches on behalf [of] the Owners before the Time mentioned in the Charter party but if we would give him his Dispatches on the part of the Company, & answer for the Consequences of his being dispatch'd before the Time limited

12th Octr. he was ready to obey our orders, Fearing therefore that her meeting with bad Weather in any part of her Passage by which the Ship or Cargo might receive Damage that such Damage would fall on the Company if she was dispatched before the Time so limited, We resolved to defer it till the 21st Instant & we shall endeavour to have her Dispatches ready to be deliver'd at Ingellee on that day precisely.

7. We have been the more particular upon this head in order that we may be favor'd with your Direction how to proceed in future in case of our having a loading ready for any of your Ships at the early Season as in the month of August or September or indeed at any Time between the 11th March & 21st Novr.

8. The Ship York Capt. Peter Lascelles imported from Surat the 24th Octr. at Ingellee with a Cargo of Six hundred Bales of Cotton, the President & Council at Bombay have desir'd she may be return'd thither with a full Loading of Salt Petre which we shall comply with as fast as possible.

26 Octr.

9. Taking into consideration the number of Ships to be return'd to Europe from this side of India, we judged upon a Calculate of our Investment that we should be able to give a full Loading to five. The Ships on hand will be six viz. the Godolphin, Hawke, Plassey, Holderness, Warren & Fox. We accordingly gave early advices to the other Presidencies of what we should be able to do & requested to be informed with all Expedition what Assistance we might expect from them.

26 Augt.

10. The Godolphin we fear will be late the Freighters having recd. advice that she touched upon a Rock going up to Judda & again going into Bombay, where she arrived the 4th Septr. & altho the Ship did not

complain nor any Damage appear yet that Capt. Hutchinson thought it necessary to see her Bottom, and for that Purpose intended to carry her into the Dock and further that Mr. Hardwick, the Agent for the Freighters had protested against Capt. Hutchinson for the delay that would be occasion'd thereby.

11. We are to acquaint you with great Concern of a very melancholy Accident which has happended to a large Ship called the Fatty Salem taken upon Freight for the Company at Bombay and dispatched from thence to Madras where having been some time employ'd, she was dispatch'd from thence for this place the 26th August with a large Quantity of Guns, Shot & other warlike Stores, a Supply of Redwood & a Detachment of two Hundred & sixty eight Men of Col. Coote's Regiment including Officers besides a Company of One hundred Frenchmen. We had no Account of her till the beginning of October when the President recd. advice of a Man belonging to her being
 Cons. 2nd Novr. come to Ballasore with an Account of the loss of the Ship & all the People excepting Major Gordon & about Thirty five others Officers, Soidiers & Lascars who came ashore in the Long boat to the Southward of Jaggernaut. A month afterwards this News was confirm'd by Letters from Capt. Simmons the Commander of the Ship & some of the Officers of the Regt. who had reach'd Cuttack. Capt. Simmons is since arrived here and we shall require of him to give a more particular Account of the Circumstances of this Misfortune.

12. We have rec'd advice of the Arrival at Fort Marlbro about the middle of July of your Ships, Osterley, Worcester
 [26] Octr. & Prince George that the former remain'd there for the Assistance of the Settlement & the two Latter had proceeded on their Voyage to China.

13. We are advised by the President & Council at Fort St. George under date the 5th Ulto. that they were about to dispatch the
 26 Octr. Earl Temple to the West Coast with a supply of Stores and such other Assistance as they could afford.

14. The Admiral Watson is Freightd from Madras on a Voyage to Manilha and the Falmouth and Prince Edward were dispatched from that Presidency for Europe the beginning of October.
 23 July

15. Upon the first Arrival of the Plassey We purposed to have sent her to Fort St. George with her Consignments for that Presidency but before she could be unladen the Season was
 7 Sept. so far advanced that her going to the Coast would have been dangerous & her return here in time to be dispatch'd to Europe uncertain. We destin'd her then to make a Voyage to Chittagong to bring a Cargo of Timber & Plank which has
 5 Octr. been cut there on the Company's Act but finding by the

Opinion of the Master Attendant as well as Capt. Ward that we could not depend upon her returning hither in the Time proposed
 Cons. 19 Octr. & having then no News of the Arrival of the Fox & Warren at Fort St. George We thought it imprudent to risk the Plassey's being late in her Dispatch to Europe & therefore detain'd her here to be loaden to Europe as soon as we have a sufficient Cargo ready.

16. The Triton arrived at Madras from Tellicherry the 8th June and [13] July sail'd from thence for Canton the 2nd July. The Lord Mansfield and Sandwich have both been dispatch'd to Europe from the Malabar Coast.

17. In our Consultation of the 20th April your Honors will find a Report from the Master Attendant concerning the Sloops we have for the River Service, many of them are very old & will soon be unfit for Service. We therefore hope we shall soon receive the Schooners We have desir'd to be built at Bombay, We have further directed two Schooners to be built at Chittagong for the same Purpose, In the mean Time we have purchased two Vessells which have been offered this Season being first duly Survey'd by the Master Attendant. The Triumvirate Ketch now the Chittagong Sloop for Curr. Rupees Nine thousand & the Apollo Yatch for Current Rupees three thousand two Hundred & forty.

18. Your Snow Syren was dispatch'd from Bombay to Madras & forwarded from thence hither & arrived in the River the beginning of September. The Gentlemen at Bombay having no Employment for her have propos'd she should be kept here for the River Service but being rigged as a Snow she will not be very handy as a Pilot Vessell, she will however be very useful in cruizing off the Point or going to Chittagong [or?] Madras, to which last Place we dispatch'd her the 5th October with advice of the Misfortune to the Fatty Salem, & to desire in Consequence a fresh Supply of Redwood.

19. The Fort William Schooner which We advised you last Season had been dispatch'd to Madras with a Supply of Money was Employ'd by the President & Council there to carry Stores for the Seige of Pondicherry she was on her return from that place to Madras at the Time of the Gale of Wind which happen'd there the 1st January and has never since been heard of.

20. In the Month of March the Ship King of Prussia belonging to the Prussian Company arrived in the River from Europe & we received a Letter from the Supracargoes requesting Leave to bring her up to Calcutta the said Letter is enter'd after our Consultation of the 30th March & considering the good Understanding between the two Nations we thought it would be improper to refuse our Compliance; For the reasons mention'd in the same Consultation we consented to their Landing & disposing of their Cargo here of which a List is enter'd after our Consultation of the 13th April, We are

inform'd that the Intention of the Prussian Company in sending out this Ship was rather to collect in & finish the outstanding Concerns of their former Voyage than with a view of benefiting by their present Adventure & We are induced to think this is truly the Case by the small Amount of the Cargo she brought & by their having sold off all their Warehouses & which they had near Sirampore. It is indeed impossible that their Voyages can answer as they are obliged to pay not only your Import & Export Duties here but to pay also the Houghly Duties to the Country Government and as they have no establish'd Factory they must of course sell their Goods cheaper & buy dearer in order to finish their Voyage, upon the whole We are persuaded your Interest never can suffer in any material Degree by their Adventures but as far as the Markets can be affected by their Sales it will be the same whether they be made at Sirampore or Calcutta & in the latter Case you have the benefit of the Customs, at the same Time that we indulge the request made to us in behalf of a Crown in strict Amity with ours. The Ship remains as yet at this place but is to proceed next Month to Europe & we shall cause the Supracargoes to deliver in a List of their Exports before the Ship sails.

21. Capt. Dent late Commander of his Majesty's Ship Tyger & Mr. Fanshaive Lieut. of the same Ship which has been
 Cons. 8 Sept. condemned at Bombay came round hither in order to procure a passage for Europe, at the same Time the Admiral advised the President that the Company had furnish'd a Passage at Bombay to as many of the Officers of the condemned Ships as could be accommodated from that Side & requested the same Provision might be made for Capt. Dent & Mr. Fanshaive here, We accordingly have directed Capt. Kent to accommodate them on board the Hawke in a suitable Manner & referr'd him to your Honors for such a consideration to be made him for his Table as you shall think reasonable.

22. We shall observe the Directions contained in the 31st & 32d Par. of your Commands of the 31st December 1760 relative to Charter party Passengers-such discharged Soldiers or others as are capable of working their Passage home are permitted to enter themselves with the Commanders of the Ships and no orders are given by us for their being received on board. It is only such Invalids as are desirous of returning to their native Country or Men deprived of their Senses & consequently detrimental to the Settlement or French Prisoners all of whom are a charge to the Company while they remain in India, it is such only that we order to be rec'd on board as Charter party Passengers, & for whom we pay the Commanders ten pound each according to Charter party.

23. We send in this Ship Eleven of this Sort as P List enclosed.

24. We send also six French Officers who are Prisoners on their Parole & to whom we are obliged to pay a Subsistance as Officers while they remain in India, for which reason as well as with a View of leaving as few French Gentlemen as possible in India at the Peace, We purpose to send the like

Number in every Ship & as they must be accommodated as Gentlemen we shall allow the Commanders Thirty Pound for each as we understand has been the practice at Fort St. George. Mr. Law the chief of the French Gentlemen Prisoners here is permitted to remain till one of the latter Ships as he is to carry his Family with him.

2d Trade of India

25. For the Sales of your Woollen Goods, Copper & Lead we beg leave to refer your Honors to the Account Sales by Outcry the 1st June & following Days which is enter'd after the Cons. of the 22d June & goes as usual in the Packet & amounts to Current Rupees seven Hundred seventy seven Thousand & forty Six & eight annas. The prices are lower than last Year & the Demands for Europe Goods in general is very slack, owing, We believe to the unsettled State of those inland Countries towards Delhi where the chief Consumption used to be which are now greatly impoverished besides which the failure for some Years past of the usual Supplies of Bullion from Europe has made Money extremely scarce in all parts of India which will of course have the effect of lowering the Price of all Sales, for in proportion as Money is scarce it must rise in it's value.

26. We find that Perpets are entirely out of Demand & recommend to you to send none or as few as possible.

27. It has been observ'd that the small Arms sent out last Season altho they appear to be well finished yet when they came to be tried proved very defective particularly the Cocks were found to be made of bad Metal or ill temper'd so that Numbers of them broke at the first Firing, this is so capital a defect & may be of so very bad Consequence that We recommend it to your Particular Attention.

28. In our general address of last Season, We took the Liberty to represent to your Honors the great Inconvenience which your Servants both Civil & Military would suffer by want of the usual Supplies of Madeira, We are much concern'd to observe this Season also no Ship is destin'd to call at Madeira, this may appear an inconsiderable Object to those who are unacquainted with the difficulty of getting Supplies of this Sort in India or to those whose Fortunes will enable them to provide them at any price but to others who have only your Allowances to depend upon it is a Matter of great Concern, it may be said that altho' Madeira wine is wanting other Wines as Lisbon &c. may be had in lieu thereof but we find & it must always be the case that the foreign Ships which bring these Wines raise the Prices of them in proportion to the Necessity of the Purchasers & we are really asham'd to tell you the immoderate Rates which every one is obliged to pay at this Time for Wine of all Sorts & we need not remark to you that some small Quantity is necessary to Health in this Country. We make this representation in the name of the Inhabitants in general & your Servants in particular & request you will consider it in that Light.

29. The Hawke & Plassey being the only Ships yet arrived very few of the Imports of this season have been rec'd here & we have nothing to remark thereupon.

30. We have been much in want of Stationery & request you will fully Comply with the Indents now sent as our business is greatly encreased.

31. You will receive in the Packet a full and circumstantial Account of the Manner in which the Charcoal, Salt Petre & Sulphur are prepar'd here for making of Powder. You will receive also by the Ship Hawke Samples of each Article & a barrell of the Powder made here, also of the several Woods burnt here for making of Charcoal but at this Time we cannot inform you of their Age & the same shall be sent by the next Conveyance for fear of any Accidents.

32. The Plassey meeting with bad Weather off the Cape, the Boxes of cuttings of Sallow, Willow & Alder which stood in the
 Cons. 9 Augt. Balcony were wash'd over board. The Box of Alder seeds We rec'd and deliver'd it particularly to the Care of Mr. Beaumont who gave to each of us & to several of the Inhabitants small Parcels which have been try'd in many different Soils with all possible Care but none of them have come up. We hope the Cuttings by the other Ships will come safe, & shall endeavour by all means to cultivate them and in every Respect to make a suitable Return for the Attention you have given to the Improvement of our Manufacture of Gun Powder.

33. As our Expencc of Gun Powder this Year has been but small & all your Presidencies are well Supplied and their Occasions lessen'd by the Capture of Pondicherry We thought it a good Opportunity to put a stop to the Expencc of the old temporary Powder Works erected at Perrin's & to direct the new Mills to be began according to the model sent us last Year, accordingly all the necessary Timbers & other Materials are preparing & in the mean Time we have stop'd the making of any more Gun Powder.

34. In our general Address of last Season dated 16th Janry Par. 32 to
 39. We inform'd you of the Measures we had taken to render your Mint
 7th Sept. of more general & extensive Use. We have accordingly throughout the whole Course of this Year coined Muxadavad Siccaes instead of Calcutta & also restamped such Siccaes of former Years as would bear it & having recd from Madras the Stamps for Arcot Rupees. We coin enough of that Specie for the Military Charges by which a considerable Saving accrues to the Company as Sonaut Rupees were before paid to your Military instead of Arcots without any deduction of Batta.

35. We also gave publick Notice for receiving proposals from any persons who would manage the Mint by Contract upon the Footing directed
 22 June in your Commands of the 3d March 1758 but no Proposals were made altho, more than two Month were allowed, & upon an Examination of the Mint Acc. from the 18 Jany, 1760 to the 30th April 1761, it appears that the Company are loser

in that Term of Current Rupees two Hundred Twenty seven & six Annaes by undertaking the Coinage at two P Cent so that it was not to be expected that any private Persons would accept the Contract but this Loss is plainly owing to the small Quantity of Bullion that was deliver'd into the Mint in that period of Time while the same Number of Servants or the greatest Part of them were obliged to be kept up as they could not have been procur'd again if once discharged. The one P Cent upon restamping will for the future be some additional Profit, & whenever Bullion is imported from Europe as formerly there is no doubt but many will be willing to Contract for a less Charge than two P Cent.

36. Several parcels of Gold having been offered of late to be coined in our Mint. We are endeavouring to engage proper Assistants for carrying on
 Cons. 1st Nover. the Gold Coinage & have directed the Mint Master to lay before us a Calculate of the Charge of coining Gold that we may regulate the Customs & Coinage upon the most reasonable footing in proportion to your Regulation of the Silver Coinage & the Custom of the other Presidencies.

37. Immediately on receipt of your Letter of the 13th March 1761 We appointed Mr. Beaumont to the Charge of that Office, & we hope in Consequence of our representation last Season you will send us out a capable Assay Master with all proper Utensils without which it is impossible that the fineness of Bullion more especially Gold can be ascertained to a sufficient Exactitude.

38. At the representation of the Master Attendant we are to request you will send a larger Number of small Anchors for the Sloop Service they should be from Twelve to Six hundred Weight.

39. The Consignments for Fort St. George by the Ship Plassey as well as the Stores for his Majesty's Squadron, the Cloathing for the Detachment of the Royal Regiment of Artillery & the Box of Gold for Colonel Monsoon's Regiment shall be carefully forwarded by the first safe Conveyances.

40. Being informed by the Gentlemen at Fort St. George that your new established Settlement of Fort Malbro' is in want of Artificers, Rice & other Stores. We are accordingly preparing a Supply with all possible Expedition & shall send them thither upon freight.

41. We advis'd you last Season of the Receipt of part of the Timber which had been provided for the Company at the Negraise & the Engineer representing to us he is greatly in want of the Remainder of those Timbers.

[...9] June We caused public Notice to be given of the Freight which we would allow to any Vessels that would bring them, & wrote also the Gentlemen at Madras recommending their ordering one of those Ships which are destined to be sold in India, viz. the Norfolk & Chesterfield, to call at that place in her way to Bengal to assist on this necessary Service.

42. We find that abundance of Timbers are to be had at Chittagong of which Samples have been sent for our Examination and in our Consultation of the 6th April your Honors will observe the Engineer's Report of them, In consequence of which we directed a Number to be cut of those Sorts which were found to be the best & they are now ready to be sent by any Conveyance that may offer, in the mean Time the Gentlemen there are endeavouring to contrive means of Floating them hither by the Rivers which if it succeeds we imagine will turn out much cheaper than the Freight of Vessels.

Thirdly of Investment

43. We hope to send you this Season from three Thousand to three Thousand five Hundred Bales which indeed is more than we expected considering our Advancements of Money were late & considering the excessive dearness both of Rice & Cotton. We beg leave to refer you as usual to our Books of Letters for the particulars of the Business of the Subordinates & to the Abstracts of our Aurung accounts for the Sums advanced to the several Gomastahs.

44. The Account in general of those Advances will be nearly as follows *vi z.*

To the Calcutta Aurungs twenty Laacks
 To Dacca Six Laacks & an half
 To Cossimbuzar seven Laacks & an half
 To Luckypore Two Laacks

Patna has been very largely Supplied with Money out of the Nabob's payments as well as by drafts upon us, but as they Cons. [27?] April have had the Charges of the Army to defray, we know not certainly what they have employ'd for their Investment. The Chief & Council however advised us that they judged they should be able to forward to us about Eighty thousand Maunds of Petre.

45. From Midnapore we expect the greatest part of the Goods that were order'd to be provided at Ballasore, Mr. Johnstone [...1] Augt. having made the necessary Advance for that Purpose.

46. From Chittagong we have recd. some Musters of Cloth very cheap & well Manufactured which are forwarded to your [14?] Sept. Honors upon this Ship. The Export Warehouse Keeper's remarks thereon are enter'd on the Consultation of the 21st September & we have directed the Chief & Council there whose diligence we have occasion to Commend in this & every other Branch of their Business, to provide as large a Quantity of those Cloths as they can without falling off in the Quality. We, therefore, expect for this year a very small parcell the amount of the Annual Investment at Malda being usually five lacks &

upwards and the Committee of Aurungs having taken Notice that the Quality of the Goods provided there was falling off. We resolved therefore to appoint one of your Senior Servants to reside at that place which seemed to us the more necessary on account of its great Distance from the Presidency & the too great Risk of so large a Sum of Money in the hands of a Gomastah. Mr. George Gray was appointed to this Station & has accordingly proceeded thither where he arrived the 2nd Instant.

47. We have mentioned under the first Head our hopes of giving a full Cargo to five Ships, to effect which we purpose to lade on each Three hundred Tons being Nine thousand Maunds of Petre, upon this Computation we judge the value of each Ship will be between Six and Seven Laacks which is a less Amount than usual. We however judge it will be most for the Company's Interest to have as many Ships return'd to Europe as possible, & your Risk being more divided during this Time of War we imagine you will not disapprove, it is indeed what seems rather to be conformable to your Intentions expressed in your Commands of the 31st December 1760.

48. The Dutch not having attempted to make any Purchases of Salt Petre for themselves & having apply'd to us for a large Supply for their Ships which they represented would require Thirty Six Thousand Maunds We promised to spare them one fourth part of our whole Quantity at the usual rate of six Current Rupees P Maund & we have accordingly deliver'd to them Seven thousand Five hundred Maunds out of the Thirty thousand already received from Patna. We shall not however permit our Indulgence to the Dutch to interfere with our own Occasion in case we should by any Accident be disappointed of the quantity we shall want.

49. The Gentlemen at Bombay have desired a Supply of One thousand Tons of Salt Petre, the quantity we intended them in our Computation was only Twenty thousand Maunds or six Hundred & Sixty six Tons but we shall endeavour to increase it as much as possible.

50. The Gentlemen at Madras have not expressed what quantity they shall have Occasion for but in general desired a Supply by the return of the Fatty Salem as we imagine they will have no Goods for Europe but what will be put on board a Ship to be dispatch'd from hence to be fitted up there a small Supply will suffice for their Occasions, but in this we shall be guided by what further Advices we may receive from that Presidency.

51. In the mean time We are using our utmost Endeavors to encrease our Investment of Salt Petre The President having obtained from the Nabob of Gauzupoor (a District bordering upon Patna) an exclusive Priviledge for the Company to purchase Petre there as well as in another District called Auzeem-gur orders have been accordingly sent to the Chief & Council at Patna to send Gomastahs thither to purchase as large a quantity of that Article as possible, & we are in hopes also of procuring some from Purnea.

Cons. 14 Sept.

52. We fear the loss of the *Fatty Salem* will occasion our quantity of Redwood to fall short the supply We have received this Season from Fort St. George barely provided for the *Hawke*. We have lately purchased a parcel but not sufficient for the *Plassey*, as we have wrote repeatedly to Madras for a Supply & dispatch'd the *Syren Snow* to assist in bringing as much as possible. We hope that all the Ships will be provided.

53. We have directed the Chief & Council at Cossimbuzar to endeavour to comply fully with your Orders for Raw Silk as the prohibition of exporting that Article from China will We imagine make it answer the better. Such part as has been recd. to this Time appears to be well provided & We hope the Improvements made by Mr. Wilder will be kept up, notwithstanding the decease of that Gentleman as will be mentioned under the head of Servants.

54. We recd. from Luckypore a few Pieces of Putcaes, Cossaes & Baftaes Callipatee for Musters but upon inspection finding them very dear We directed no more should be purchased of them unless the Price could be reduced. The said Musters are now forwarded to your Honors by the *Hawke* for your Examination and further Directions.

Cons. 19 Aug.

55. We advised you last Season of having supplied Patna Factory with all the Copper [we] had to enable them to refine the Salt Petre in better manner, & the Chief & Council give us hope that they will remedy the Complaint in some Measure altho' the Number of Coppers is not nearly sufficient to answer the purpose. We request you will order one Hundred of the most proper Cop[pers] for this purpose to be sent us from Europe.

Fourthly Transactions with the Country Government

56. The first thing that occurs under this Head is the Proclamation of Shah Allum (formerly known by the Name of the Shahzada) as King of Delhi. He remained at Patna till the beginning of June & was extremely desirous of having a body of English Forces accompany him to his Capitol [*sic*], but as we were uncertain of Col. Coote's Regiment coming down from the Coast & the Security of your Possessions in Bengal was first to be regarded We found it impossible to spare a sufficient Detachment for undertaking so distant and so important a Service. The King therefore being pressed by his Relations at Delhi to proceed thither with all Expedition & Shuja Dowla the Nabob of Oude whom he has appointed his Vizier having advanced to the border of this Province to meet him, he determined not to wait longer for our Assistance. The Nabob supplied him with considerable Sums of Money during his Residence at Patna, & at the time of his Departure caused Siccaes to be struck in his Name thro'out these Provinces of which having advised the President it was agreed that the Siccaes in the Name of Shah Allum should also be struck in our Mint on the fifteenth of July which was accordingly done, the usual Notice being first given. Shah Allum is not

however as yet generally acknowledged. The late Vizier Gawze odir Cawn has engaged some of the Chiefs of the Empire in his Party & has formed a considerable Army to oppose the King & Shuja Dowla in their way to Delhi. These last were by our freshest Advices about ten days march on this side of Agra which is in the hands of Gawze Odir Cawn, so that upon the whole, the Event of this Affair is very doubtful.

57. We hope however that none of the contending Parties will return this way & that Bengal will continue to enjoy a state of Tranquility. By the Nabob's Letter to the President which he laid before the Board the 12th October We are advised of his having received from Shah Allum the Sunnuds for the three Provinces.

58. We directed Major Carnac and Mr. Mc Gwire & afterwards Col. Coote & Mr. Mc. Gwire to apply as soon as Shah Allum should be acknowledged King for Sunnuds for the Company's Possessions & Privileges in Bengal viz. The Zemindary of the Purgunnahs, The Jageer's of the Provinces of Burdwan, Midnapore & Chittagong granted by the present Nabob & the Confirmation of the freedom of our Mint. We directed also application to be made at the same time for the Sunnuds for the Provinces of Arcot in the Name of the Nabob Aly Verdi Cawn otherwise called Mahmud Allum Cawn with whom we have been so long ally'd, these Requests were made by Major Carnac who was Detached by Col. Coote to escorte the King to the borders of the Province & the King wrote upon the papers of Requests that they should be granted whenever a proper Peshank or Tribute was remitted the Major transmitted to us Copies of the said Papers of Requests with the Kings Superscription & advised us at the same time that the King had offered to confer on the Company the Duannee of Bengal on condition of our being answerable for the Royal Revenues, but as We were sensible that our accepting of this Post would cause Jealousy & Ill-will between us & the Nabob We thought it more prudent to decline it all which you will observe more fully in our Consultation of the 4th July.

59. In the 44, 45, 47 & 51st Paragraphs of your Commands of the 13th March 1761 you have favour'd us with your Opinion in general as to our Conduct with the Country Government; We are very happy in the Confidence you are pleased to express in our Management & shall endeavour to conform to those Views of Oeconomy & good Order you therein recommend, our Sentiments with respect to protecting the Servants of the Country Government agree perfectly with yours. Those who have received such Protections have proved in general false Friends to us of which the Transactions of Roydoolub & Nundcomar mentioned in our Advices of last Season may be esteemed a Proof, those two do however remain under our Protection, but we shall take care that the Number of them does not encrease. Our select Committee's Address of the 29th Decr. 1759 which you take Notice of in the 51 Par. of your Commands of the 13th March last does not mention the particulars of the Engagements that subsisted with

Ramnarain nor can We find them any where. We could therefore construe them no otherwise than as Justice & Equity & the Constitution of the Government of the Country would admit. We supposed them accordingly to be of this Nature that he should have the Protection of the English as long as he should duly give an Account of his Administration to the Subah of Muxadavad & be answerable to him for the Revenues of the Bahar Province according to their real Produce or at least according to the Terms agreed with the late Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn which we are extremely easy upon this footing. We were determined still to support him & sent Orders accordingly to Major Carnac early in the Month of March which Orders we afterwards repeated several Times and endeavour'd to the utmost of our Power to bring him to an Adjustment of his Accounts with the Nabob but more than four Months having elapsed & none of his Accounts deliver'd in the Nabob grew extremely uneasy & insisted on dismissing Ramnarain and placing another in the Administration of the Affairs of the Bahar Province in his room which we thought it improper longer to oppose & We were accordingly acquainted on the tenth of August that Ragebullub¹ was appointed to that Government. For the particulars of this Transaction we beg leave to refer you to the Proceedings of the Select Committee & to our Consultations of the 4th July, 10th & 31st August. Ramnarain continues with the Nabob at Patna & we are inform'd has since he was turned out paid some part of the ballance due from him.

60. It is with great Concern that we must request your Perusal of so large a Number of Pages in our Consultation book filled entirely with Disputes Complaints, Remonstrances & Dissents Disputes which began at Patna between Major Carnac & the Nabob & continued afterwards between Col. Coote & the Nabob Complaints & Remonstrances made by the Nabob in Consequence, & Dissents of some of the Members of the Board from the Opinion of the Majority on those Subjects. In the Proceedings of the Select Committee of the 7th & 17th March, 17th, 20, 21 and 28 April, 8 and 17 May, 18, 22 & 29 June and in our Consultation of the 26th and 29 June, 4, 6, 13, 14, 20 & 23rd July, 3, 5, 10 and 31 August, 22 and 28 September and 26th October you will see the beginning the continuation & We hope the end of these Dissentions which have been by [*sic*] so much the more disagreeable as in some Instances the great Object of the Company's Interest & the Tranquility of the Country seems to be lost in unbecoming personal Invectives. By the examination which has been made since into the Nabob's Complaints laid before the Board the 26 June his Suspicions of a design to engage the King to give the Sunnuds of these Provinces to another are not found to have any sufficient Foundation and We imagine his fears on this Head to have proceeded from his Uneasiness at our Protection of Ramnarrain & from the Jealousy which many ill-disposed People made it their Business to excite in him by giving him secret Intelligence that We had a Design to procure the Duannee for the Company.

61. As we have all the highest Respect for the Character of Col. Coote & a due Sense of how much the Company owe to his services it has been a matter of particular Concern to us that any Thing should have happen'd in the course of these Disputes to give him Uneasiness. We shall avoid repeating here any thing that might tend to inflame the Minds afresh but having pointed out to you the several Consultations when the whole will fully appear We beg leave to refer you to them & submit them to your Approbation or Censure as you shall see Occasion.

62. Some points having occur'd during the course of these Debates which are necessary to be settled for our future Guidance We request your Directions upon them. First with respect to Dissents some Members of the Board are of Opinion that Dissents to any Letters or Orders dispatched from the Board should be marked opposite to the Names of such Members as dissent in the signing of the said Letters or Orders. Others think that no Dissents should be expressed in the signing of the Letters or Orders but that all the Members should sign to the Orders determined on by the Majority & such who are of a contrary Opinion minute their Dissent in the Consultation book with their Reasons. What has been said on both Sides will appear more fully in the Consultations of the 29 June and 3 August. Secondly We request you will signify your pleasure with respect to the Correspondence with the Country Powers whether it should be carried on as usual thro' the Channel of the President or in what other manner. Your former Orders on this Head & particularly in the 96 Paragraph of your Commands of the 1st April 1760 say expressly that all Applications to or Disputes with the Country Powers are to pass thro' the Authority of the President alone however some of the Members of the Board are of Opinion that it would be more for the Company's Interest to put this into a different Channel what has been urged on this Subject you will find in our Consultation of the 3 August, & Thirdly The President requests you will take notice that during this whole Season there has never been at the Board more than five Members & frequently only four consequently in disputed Cases the Majority has consisted sometimes of three to two & sometimes has been determined by the casting Vote of the President only. Major Carnac in his Letter of the 29 July enter'd after the Consultation of the 3 August & Col. Coote in his Letter of the 15 September enter'd the 22 of the same Month take occasion to dwell upon this Circumstance as if such Orders are not to have the force of the Orders of the Board this Circumstance was occasioned by those Members who dissented from the Opinion of the Majority refusing to sign those Letters as the marking Dissent against their Names had been brought in Debate. The President in the Minutes of Consultation of the 22 September immediately after Col. Coote's Letter has given his Sentiments on this Subject & We request to be favour'd with your Opinion & Directions.

63. The same Committee of the Board who adjusted the Nabob's Accounts in a Sett of Books closed the 9 January 1761 which were transmitted

to you by the Ships of last Season have lately continued the same up to the 1st of October in another Sett of Books which are transmitted to you by this Conveyance together with their Report which will shew you very clearly what Ballance is due from the Nabob to the Company and from the Company to the several Accounts of Restitution after debting [sic] them for their Proportion of the Head of Batta & Profit & Loss with a Computation for Charges attending the Collecting in the Restitution money you will observe that the Nabob's ballance by the Close of those Books appears to be Sicca Rupees eight Laak Eighty eight Thousand one Hundred Eighty seven, fifteen Annaes & four Pice after debting him for the Amount of the Kistbundee mentioned in the 68 Paragraph of our general Address of the 16th January 1761 as well as for the five Laaks promised as a Present to the Company, the arrears mentioned in the 81 & 82 Paragraphs of the said Letter & all other advances made at different Times to the Troops of the old Nabob at Patna & also for all the Sums advanced here for the support of the old Nabob Jaffair Ally Cawn.

64. Towards the discharge of the said Ballance of Sa. Rs.8,88,187-15-4 We are advised by Mr. Hay of the Receipt into your Treasury at Patna of six Laaks of Rupees of different Sorts. We have desired the Nabob to compleat his Payments at Patna to seven Laaks of Siccaes & to send an order for the payment here of the remaining one Laak Eighty eight Thousand one Hundred Eighty seven, fifteen Annaes & four Pice, in order to close the Account in exact Conformity with the Account Current annexed to the Report of the Committee. This we doubt not will be immediately complied with & indeed the Ballance now due is so inconsiderable that we may venture to congratulate you on the Compleat Payment of all the sums stipulated Account of Restitution for the Losses at the Capture of Calcutta.

65. The Ballances due from the Company to the several Funds after debting them for their Proportions as before mentioned & reserving the Commission as advised last Season are as follows.

To the European sufferers	C. Rs. 58,335-13-3
Natives	.....4,86,137-7-6
Armenians & Portuguese	.....65,469-0-7

Out of the first will be discharged the Amount of any such Account as have been already pass'd but Money not demanded & of which Sort we understand there are many. There is also a Demand of a Gentleman at Chinsurah named Mr. Van Staaden for the Amount of the Loss he Sustained in Calcutta the Certainty of which together with some particular Circumstances which rendered the Claim worthy of Notice engaged the former President & Council as well as us to recommend it to the Commissioners to be passed but without Success. This Gentleman's case We think may be considered as far as the Amount of the Surplus Money will admit. To the Armenians & Natives we shall pay the full Ballance of their Accounts. The former having to this Time received their whole Principal & the Portuguese & Natives 6 Annaes each.

66. The Nabob having desired that the Jewels delivered into our Factory at Cossimbuzar in part Security for his Debt to the Company might be brought down to Calcutta & disposed of for the most they would fetch they were accordingly sold at public Outcry the Nabob credited for the neat Produce.

67. By two Vessels which have sai[led], recently for Pegu the President wrote to the King and [sent a] trifling Present in order to obtain leave for the [Timber] to be brought away from the Negrais, it would be [much] more agreeable to us if an Opportunity offered to a[ssert] our Cons.[...] Septr. Rights after different manner and conformably to the 48 Par. of your Letter of the 13 March 1761 demand Satisfaction for the Massacre of Mr. Southby and the People who were with him but it is in vain to make such Demand without being well prepared to enforce them.

68. There being a great Number of French Families, chiefly Women & Children dispersed at Chandernagore, Chinsurah & Sirampore who having spent what little they had left after the Capture of their Settlement were reduced to the utmost Distress, We could not help giving some Attention to the Representation which was made to us in Consultation the 11 May where you will find a List of them entered & We hope you will approve of our Resolution to divide amongst them for their Subsistence the Sum of One Thousand Arcot Rupees P Month.

69. Of these Advances as well as the Subsistences to French Officers upon Parole a separate Account is kept & the French Company debted for the amount, of all which a regular Statement shall be transmitted to your Honors by every Ship that you may make a Claim thereof in Europe.

70. We have this year had no Dispute with the Dutch Government in Bengal but upon a vague Report brought here from out of their Settlements upon the Coast of a probability of a War between England and Holland they sent a Deputation from their Council with a Letter proposing our entering into a Neutrality in the Ganges: We wrote them in Answer that they were too hasty in giving Credit to a Report so ill forwarded but in case of such an Event our Conduct must be guided by the Orders of our Superiors.

71. Being informed of some unwarrantable Proceedings of the Dutch upon the West coast of Sumatra since the Capture of your Settlements there and imagining a Representation from hence when their Possessions are so much in our Power may have weight with the General & Council at Batavia We have wrote a remonstrance to them which We shall send thro' the hands of the Gentlemen at Bencoolen & hope it may be of use in preventing any Interruption being given by the Dutch in the reestablishment of your Settlements. They have indeed been suffer'd too long to tyrannize in that part of India. [Sumatra?]

2 Nov.

Fifthly of Revenues

72. This being now a very extensive Branch of our Business, We shall treat of it under a head by itself.

73. Burdwan claims the first place among the Articles of your Revenues. We advised you in our general Address of last Season dated 16 January 1761 that We had settled the Payments from the Rajah for the last Bengal Year ending the 10th April 1761 at Sicca Rupees ten Laak Thirty five Thousand two Hundred Eighty four, four Annaes ten pice (Sa. Rs. 1035284-4-10) being in conformity to the Computation made by the Roy royan by the Nabob's Order the Septem. preceding at the same time We assured your Honors that measures should be taken to render this Possession more advantageous for the present Year. With this view Mr. Sumner was appointed in the Month of March to proceed to Burdwan & soon after the Rajah by his principal Vakeel proposed to increase the Maulguzary (or Government's share of the Revenues) which

Cons. 16 Mar.	now belongs to the Company, to Twenty five Laak,
30 Mar.	Twenty one Thousand, six Hundred, Sixty one Rupees-
2 April	eight Annaes for the present Bengal Year and for the next
	to make it Twenty eight Laak, Fifty six Thousand, one

Hundred nineteen, seven Annaes & six Pice. This We thought so considerable an Augmentation that we had Determined to accept of those Terms & Mr. Sumner was accordingly recalled but upon his Arrival & informing the Board that by some lights he had procured into the State of the Revenues he imagined that upon a Scrutiny more advantagious Terms could be made for the Company, he was directed to return to Burdwan & impowered to make a full Examination into the real Produce of the Country—this Commission he fulfilled with great Diligence & much to our Satisfaction & on the 15th June laid before the Board his proceedings at large in twelve Papers of which No. 7 is the Computation of the whole Produce of the Burdwan Province being Forty one Laak Fifty eight Thousand seven Hundred & seven Rupees, fourteen Annaes & two Pice (Rs. 4158707-14-2). No. 10 is a State of the Malguzary being what the Rajah is obliged to pay every Year, except in cases of Devastation by public Enemies amtg. to Thirty Laak of Sicca Rupees (Sa. Rs. 3000000) & for which Mr. Sumner took the Rajah's Acknowledgement, but it being customary in this Country for the Nabob to demand a further Sum from the different Rajahs over & above the Malguzary in any cases of extraordinary Expence as raising new Forces, building Fortifications &c it appeared to Mr. Sumner that We might reasonably make some Demand of this Kind for the present Year because the Rajah by the Troubles in which he engaged at the Time of our taking Possession really put us to an extraordinary Expence & because the Assistance he now has of English Troops will enable him to discharge a great part of his own, accordingly after some Objection he signed another Acknowledgement for two Laaks &

[10] April

a half to be paid on that Account. A ballance of more than five Laaks of last Year's Revenues remained unpaid at the close of the Year & which the Rajah & his Officers declared to be outstanding in the Country on Account of the Troubles of these Mr. Sumner collected a part and for what remained due at the Time We made the Agreement with the Rajah for the new Year the took another Obligation the Amount four Laak eleven Thousand eight Hundred Fifty seven, thirteen Annaes & four Pice (Rs.411857-13-4) The whole State of the Moneys to be received from Burdwan for the present Year is therefore as follows :

For the Malguzary	Rs.3000000-0-0
For expence of the Troops	250000-0-0
For last Years ballance which however is to be collected from the Ballances outstanding in the Country or else to be made good by the Rajah or his principal Officers so as not to interfere wh. this Years produce. }	411857-13-4

3661857-13-4

after this plain detail of the Advantage which the Company will receive from Mr. Sumner's diligence in the Execution of this Trust it is needless to add any Thing in his favor Upon his return to Calcutta the Collection of the Money according to the Kistbundee or Monthly proportion settled was left in charge to Mr. Graham who went with Mr. Sumner as Assistant, & we have the pleasure to acquaint you that to this time the payments of the Thirty two Laaks & an half have been made very regularly, the collecting in the old ballance meets with some Difficulty, but we shall insist on all deficiencies being made good by the Rajah & his Officers & We promise ourselves that upon the whole there will be a smaller Ballance outstanding at the end of this Year than is usually admitted in this Country notwithstanding the disadvantages the Burdwan Country has labored under this Year by reason of the Troubles which were not quelled till March & by reason of the Large Arrears due to the Rajahs own Troops amounting to Rs. 450000 as P No. 9 in Consultation of the 15 June disadvantages which it will not be subject to another Year.

74. We have likewise great reason to commend the diligence which Mr. Verelst & his Council at Chittagong have exerted in their Enquiries their Letter of the 5th June contains a very full Account of the Revenues of that Province deduced from its first Establishment with all its increases since. By the same Letter your Honors will observe the good Prospect there is of further Improvements & as We approve of the several Methods proposed by those Gentlemen & have an entire Confidence in their Management. We have given them full Authority to carry them into Execution in such manner as they think best, the Revenues of the present Year according to the said Computation will be four Laaks forty three Thousand nine Hundred & eighteen Rupees & fifteen Annaes (Rs. 443918-15-0).

75. Mr. Johnstone has shewn the same Assiduity in his department for Midnapore & We must do him the Justice to remark that he has had, of all, the most difficult Task, that Province being made up of the Districts of a great Number of separate Zemindars, every one endeavouring to conceal the true Value of his Possessions; however Mr. Johnstone got into his hands some of the former Years Accounts & having from them procured an insight into the several Articles of the Revenue of each Zemindary the Amount paid to the Nabob with such Increases as at present seem reasonable appears to be Sicca Rupees six Laaks Sixty five Thousand eight Hundred Fifty four, nine Annaes & four Pice (Sa. Rs. 665854-9-4) but here also We may hope for annual Improvements.

76. All the Letters & Accounts before mentioned relative to the produce of Burdwan, Chittagong & Midnapore are entered in a Book kept for that Purpose by the Committee of new Lands, to which we beg leave to refer your Honors for your full Information.

77. The said Committee sit regularly every Week & the books of their Proceedings are sent in the Packet. We are perswaded they will give you satisfaction & answer all the good Purposes intended by their Appointment. The several Members have taken the Management in Lots of the Calcutta Pergunnahs which were before under the care of the Collector, this will enable every one of them to judge what Improvements may be made at the Time of the expiration of the present Leases in May 1762 when it is our Intention to lett them in smaller Lots as recommended in the 57 Paragraph of your Letter of the 13th March 1761 & which We are entirely of your Opinion will be a means of encreasing the Rents.

78. Agreeable to what We mentioned in our Letter of the 5 March last we made public Advertisement offering the Purgunnah of Corry Jury to sale upon such Terms as We esteemed best calculated for encouraging some Adventurer or Society to undertake to clear, the Terms are enter'd after our Consultation of the 23 March & Time was given till the 1st October for proposals to be deliver'd in, but none were received. We recommended therefore to the further Consideration of the Committee of new Lands who will try all possible means of encouraging & setting on foot an Attempt to clear this uncultivated Tract.

79. We have not seen Occasion to make any Alteration in the Regulation of the Customs as settled by your former President & Council & advertised in the 64th Paragraph of their Letter of the 29 December 1759 excepting only in the Article of Rice of which having suffered a severe Scarcity this Season, We took off the Duty upon the Import & encreased that upon Export to ten P Cent, if this be a loss in the Article of Customs it is abundantly made up by savings on other Articles which depend entirely on the price of Grain.

80. Agreeable to your Directions the Management of the ^oold Farms dependant on Calcutta is kept under charge of the Collector, & Mr. Amyatt

(the second in Council) having charge of that Office We appointed him nevertheless one of the Committee of new Lands notwithstanding the restraint contained in the 58 Paragraph of your Commands of the 1st April 1761. We do not see the Necessity of that restraint the Collector as one of the Committee being in no respect different from the other Members.

81. We have appointed Mr. Hugh Cameron Surveyor of the new Lands & he is gone to make an accurate Survey of the Calcutta Pergunnahs including Corry Jury. He had his Instructions from the Committee & you will find it copied in their Proceedings.

Sixthly of Fortifications and Buildings

82. In our Consultation of the 7 Sept. you will see our Engineer's Letter containing an Acct. of the Work done at the Fort last fair Season with his Opinion what should next be proceeded upon as for ourselves We must say that We have used all possible means to procure the number of Artificers & Coolies required; so in Justice to Mr. Amphlett we must mention that We think he has made the best use of them & exerted a great Share of assiduity in his Employment. We think also the progress made last Year towards rendering the Fort Defensible was very considerable the Lodgements within of which many are compleated being the most essential Object. The body of the place is now compleat the Gateways being finished & joined with the Ramparts. By the Engineer's Letter of last year you will observe that We had contracted the plan with respect to the Outworks & forbid their being carried into execution it gives us pleasure to find this agrees with your Sentiments expressed in the 55th Paragraph of your Letter of the 13th March last.

83. The method of obliging the Farmers of the Purgunnahs to supply Coolies for the new Works was found to be attended with great Difficulties we were frequently disappointed of the number required which was the occasion of the Engineer's Complaints at the same time the violent Methods the Farmers were obliged to use with the Tenants caused much Complaint & must if continued have been greatly detrimental to the Produce of the Lands. We therefore gave an Encouragement of two Annaes for each Cooly to any Person who would provide them & in this manner the Works are now furnished.

84. In the Engineer's Letter enter'd after the Consultation of the 13 April
 Cons. 20 April he represented the Advantages of extending the Esplanade as far to the Southward as the Nulla or Creek near Surman's in which opinion Colonel Coote (who was present) agreeing We determined that it should be made conformable to the Engineer's Advice. The next Consultation the Collector laid before the board an Account of the expence & loss which the clearing the Esplanade to that distance would occasion giving it as his opinion it ought not to be extended so far the matter was therefore again debated, & the Majority of the board were of Opinion that the Advantages would be more than adequate to the Expence & therefore

the former Resolution stood confirmed. The annual Loss of Revenue mention'd in the Collector's Account will not in reality be any Loss as the same Inhabitants removed to another Spot will pay the same Rents.

85. The Engineer acquaints us he is much afraid he shall not be able to send your Honors this Season the plan of Fort William directed in the 146th Paragraph of your Commands of the 13 March 1761 by reason of the want of drawing Assistants, if you have a plan of the intended works you may form a pretty just Idea of its present State by the informations We have given you how far they are carryed on, excepting this new Fort & the old Fort in the middle of the Town. We have no other Fortification in Bengal unless the old Factory at Cossimbuzar may be called so of which only the outside Walls are standing, the Factory House being demolished in the Troubles.

86. It will be very necessary for you to send out some capable Assistants for the Engineer, young Gentlemen who have been instructed in the principles of Fortification and other branches of Architecture as well as in drawing We recommend that they come out upon the footing of Cadets to receive Commissions in the Engineering Branch as is usual in the King's Service. Their Attention will not then be taken off with other Views which must be the case of those who are to rise in your civil List.

87. To enable Mr. Amphlett to carry a Command over such Assistants as well as over any Officer who might be appointed occasionally with working Parties of the Military. We have given him a Commission to rank as Captain from the Time he took charge of the Works.

88. We have had no news of Captain Brohier since his absconding from this Settlement nor of his Assistant Mr. John Lowis Mr. Brohier's bill upon Mr. Call was returned to us protested the Gentlemen at Bombay having the Sum of Bombay Rupees eleven Thousand two Hundred Seventy five & Forty four Raise (11275-0-44) placed in your Cash by Mr. Brohier's Attornies they procured an Attachment thereof, Mary De Lore a Woman who lived with Mr. Brohier demanded from us repayment of the said Sum attached at Bombay, upon which Mr. Brohier had given her a Mortgage, upon our refusing Payment she has commenced a Suit in the Mayor's Court, which is yet depending.

89. Lewis Da Costa mentioned in the 90 Paragraph of our Letter of the 16 January last, was seized at Madras & sent down to us. We Cons. 10 April have recovered a part of the Money embezzled by him & have a prospect of receiving the whole—some further Payments have been also made by the Banians who were concerned in this Fraud, all which you will see in our Treasury Book under the head of Overcharges at the new Works.

90. In the 43 Paragraph of your Commands of the 13 March you take Notice that no Credit has been given you for the Materials of the Houses demolished at Chandernagore. We find upon enquiry they were given to the inhabitants whose distressed circumstances excited that Compassion.

Seventhly of Gov. and Mily. Servts & their Accts.

91. The President begs leave to return his thanks for the favorable Mention you are pleased to make of him in many parts of your Letter of the 13 March 1761. He will do his utmost to merit a Continuance of your good Opinion & begs you will accept his Acknowledgements for the addition you have made to his Appointments by the Allowance of two & a half P Cent on the Nett Produce of your new acquired Territories which however he will deem to mean only the Calcutta Pergunnahs until your further Pleasure is known.

92. Immediately on the receipt of your Commands of the 21 January 1761 We signified your Dismission to Messrs. Sumner
Cons. 10 August Mc.Gwire & Playdell.

93. Mr. Harry Smyth died at Cossimbuzar the 3 May of a lingering Illness Mr. Hillary Van Neck Torriano departed this Life the 14 June Mr. Oliver Cromwell Webb the 16 September & Mr. Gideon Ferrand the 16 October, all of Fevers.

94. The death of Mr. Smyth reduced the number of the Board to ten (exclusive of the Colonel & Major) according to your last year's Appointment and therefore was not filled up.

95. Your Appointment of the Council in your Commands of the 21 January 1761 being only nine, the dismission of Messrs. Sumner, Mc. Gwire & Playdell caused two Vacancies which were immediately filled by calling
10 August Messrs. John Cartier & Warren Hastings the two next in standing to the Board, being Gentlemen in every Respect qualified for the Charge, Mr. Ellis was appointed to the Chiefship of Patna in the room of Mr. Mc. Gwire & Mr. Cartier in the room of Mr. Playdell to the Chiefship of Dacca.

96. Other Appointments We deferred till the Receipt of your general Letter under the established Heads imagining you might add to your former establishment of the Council but finding on receipt thereof P. Plassey that you confirmed the Appointment of only nine We took into Consideration the great Increase of the Business of this Presidency & particularly of the Council by the many Committees which they are obliged to attend & found it absolutely necessary either to call in some of the Members of the Board from the Chiefship of the Subordinates of which there are no less than five or else to add two Members to the number appointed, that We might have at the Presidency five besides the Governor.

97. We determined upon the latter Method and accordingly Messrs John Johnstone & William Hay were appointed to Council
26 August & Mr. Johnstone ordered to come to Calcutta as soon as
[1 August] he had delivered over the charge of the Midnapore Province to Mr. Burdett & Mr. Hay as soon as he had delivered over the charge of Patn

Factory to Mr. Ellis, the following Appointments were also made at the same time, Mr. George Williamson Secretary

Mr. Senior to be second at Dacca

Mr. Lushington to be second at Patna

Mr. Charlton to be third at Dacca

Mr. French fourth at Dacca.

98. The Allowance to the chief at Chittagong We have settled till
 Cons. your pleasure is known at six Thousand Rupees P Annum
 26 October the same as is allowed to the Chief at Patna.

99. Mr. Culling Smith finding his Attendance to his several duties as
 a Member of the Board to take up all his Time, desired Leave
 1 June to resign the post of Secretary to the Select Committee to
 which Mr. Oliver Cromwell Webb was appointed & after his Decease Mr
 James Philip Lyon.

100. For the other Appointments We beg leave to refer you to the usual
 List of Covenanted Servants which will be transmitted in the
 31 August Packet.

101. We communicated to Mr. Butler your Displeasure at the Exchange
 which was made between him & Mr. More & have transmitted to the
 President & Council of Fort St. George (where we understand Mr. More
 is at present) Copy of your Paragraph signifying your Dismission of that
 Gentleman from your service, as you are pleased to consent to Mr. Butler's
 remaining upon this Establishment we have continued his Appointment
 & in Justice & Compassion to Mr. More We cannot help mentioning
 to your Honors that from what we can learn of the Affair which has laid
 him under your Displeasure there are many Circumstances that might be
 urged in excuse for him, particularly that he himself was an entire Stranger
 to this & every other part of India & that he was perswaded not without
 difficulty by the Advice of others to engage in the imprudent Step which
 has brought upon him & his Family so great a Misfortune. He is a Gentle-
 man of a general good Character & if this Apology should induce you to
 admit him again into your Service We are perswaded he will be very careful
 to give you no cause of Complaint in future.

102. Mr. Tyre Saul Hancock having requested leave to resign his post of
 Surgeon on account his Health as particularly mentioned in his
 23 Mar. Letter enter'd after the Consultation of the 23 March, We
 consented thereto & appointed Mr. William Plenderleath one of our Head
 Surgeons in his room.

103. The Vacancies in our Military since our last general Advices
 are as follows, Deceased—Captains Henry Oswald, Thomas Robertson &
 John Bradbridge, Captain Lieutenant Norcross Dunstall, Lieutenants George
 Alston & John Vangreen, Ensigns James Scale, William Mynatt &

Henry Mitchell, Lieutenant fire workers Thomas Davis & Benjamin Adamson, Resigned Captain Martin White & Cornet Christopher Theodore Chaigneau, Dismissed by the Sentence of a Court Martial Lieutenant Antony Castiel being found guilty of extorting Money in a most infamous Manner from some of the Inhabitants of the Country.

104. Captain White having accused one of the Officers under his Command of misbehaviour before the Enemy & many other Crimes for which the said Officer being brought to his Tryal, was honorably acquitted. The Corps of Officers therefore refused to rank with Captain White and he was obliged to quit the Service.

105. In the Consultation of the 14th September you will observe a Statement of the Forces on this Establishment, Military, Artillery, Cavalry & Seapoys to compleat which & to fill up the several Vacancies that have happened this Year, the following Promotions have been made.

Capt. Lieutenant	John Bradbrooke	}	to be Captains in the Military
Lieutenants	William Turner		
	George Wilson		
	Ambrose Perry		
	Henry Sumners		
	Hugh Grant		
Lieutenant	John Nollkins		to be Captain Lieutenant
Ensigns	Anthony Polier	}	to be Lieutenants
	Richard Parry		
	John Mauve		
	James Forster		
	William Glen		
	Archd. Swinton		
	Walter Furlong		
	Saml. Hampton		
	Morris Roche		
Messieurs	Lewis David Belarde	}	to be Ensigns
	Samuel Feake		
	John Armstrong		
	Arthur Ahmuty		
	Robert Roberts		
	Hugh Mc. Kie		
	John Greentree		
	Abraham Wilkinson		
	Duncan Mc. Leod		
	Peter Cockey		
	John Lewis Izeling		
	Mathew Finlayson		
	Phillip Loyd		

Capt. Lieutenant Ralph Winwood to be Captain of the 2nd
Company of Artillery.

1st Lieutenant	John Green	} to be Captain Lieutenants
2nd Lieutenant	John Baylong	

2nd Lieutenants	Charles Torreneau	} to be 1st Lieu- tenants
	William Filewood	

Lieutt. Fire Worker	Adrian Decker	} to be 2nd Lieute- nants
	Conrade Wilmers	
	Paul Nedrick	
	Geo. Fr. Kochler	

Messieurs	Phillip Hamilton Parry	} to be Lieutenant Fire Workers
	John Bowin	

Mr. Isaac Humphries to be Cornet of the Troop

Mr. Benjamin Spooner Quarter Master.

106. The death of Captain Bradbridge was a very particular Loss to our Artillery & We must recommend to your Honors to send us out some capable Officers for that Corps to succeed to the Command of the Companies next after the present Capt. Lieutenants & if any fit Person should offer to be Commandant of the Corps We think it would be for the Company's Interest to engage him in your Service as Captain Kinch who at present Commands the first Company is not qualified for a post of so much Trust.

107. In our Consultation of the 8th June your Honors will observe a Letter from Captain Henry Spelman representing some Grievances with respect to his Rank, his case in few Words is this, He came out an Ensign for Bengal by the Ships for the year 1755 & being detained at Fort St. George received from the Governor there a Brevet as Ensign on the Bengal Establishment, accordingly He was promoted in his Turn to be a Lieutenant on this Establishment on the 9th Octr. 1756, but being detained still at Madras he was not included in the Promotions made at Bengal in January 1757 when it would have come to his turn to be a Captain—during the Siege of Madras Mr. Pigot gave him a Brevet as Captain the 10th January 1759 & soon after coming down to Bengal, a Captain's Commission was given him but without restoring him to his former Rank either that which he would have been entitled to in Bengal in January 1757 or that which he actually enjoyed at Madras, the said Commission being dated so late as the 19th May 1759. We agree to give him his Rank from the date of his Brevet from Mr. Pigot but for the rest We refer'd him to your Honors Determination.

108. Judging the Forces on the Coast to be sufficient for the Services
Cohs 17 Aug. to be perform'd [there] We determined that it would
be unnecessary to send back the remains of the three
Companies that came with Colonel Caillaud the latter end of the year 1759,

the rather [*sic*] as the Number of our Troops here is but small in proportion to the Possessions We have to take care of, We therefore took it into Consideration Col. Coote & Major Carnac being present, whether the Officers & Men of the Madras Detachment should be added to our Establishment or only the Men incorporated with our Company's & the Officers returned to their own Corps, it was found that the first method would give great cause of Complaint to several of the Officers here who would be Superseded by many who have not served so long, The second Method seemed to be attended with no other Inconvenience but that of reducing in some Measure the present Advantages of the Captains of the Madras Establishment by dividing their off-Reckonings into so many more Shares untill the Captains should be reduced again by the Vacancies that might happen. The first being an Objection of a general & public Nature the second merely personal & private We determined to incorporate the Men & ordered the Officers back to the Coast, this also appeared to be most conformable to your Directions of the 1st April 1760 & there is the more Justice in it when it is considered that the Recruits for many Years past have been detained upon the Coast, your Troops here have had none but Deserters from the Dutch & French by which means We are sorry to say that above three fourths of the Company's battalion are Foreigners.

109. This leads us to request your Honors to take into Consideration some Method of furnishing Recruits for this Presidency, for as it is uncertain what disposition may be made of his Majesty's Forces after the War is over; We may be left with too small a Force for the care of the Valuable & extensive Possessions dependant upon this Presidency.

110. Colonel Coote arrived here from Fort St. George the latter end of March but brought none of his Regiment with him, three Companies were sent afterwards on the Hawke, five were unfortunately embark'd on the Fatty Salem, the remaining two with the recovered Men of the Companies already sent We hope to receive by your expected Ship.

111. On the Plassey came one Company of Colonel Monson's Regiment, these We shall send to Madras by the first good Opportunity.

112. The Reduction of your Military Expences & particularly of your field Allowances has been an Object of our frequent Consideration. We had particularly in view the striking off the double Batta allowed to the Officers in the field & to put them on the same Footing with those on the Coast, whilst this Affair was under Debate in Consultation of the 23 September the Officers delivered in a Representation which is enter'd after that Consultation setting forth the difficulties they would suffer should such a Reduction take place, In order to form a true Judgement of the Reasonableness of their Arguments We directed the two eldest Captains to lay before us at our next Meeting an Account particulars [*sic*] of the extraordinary Expence which an Officer of that Rank must absolutely incur in the Field, such an estimate was accordingly laid before us and enter'd the 25 of the same

Month & being Examined by the Colonel & Major, & the other Members of the Board, we were unanimously of Opinion that there was no superfluous Charge in the said estimate & that no part of it could be reduced without exposing the Officers in the Field to great Hardships, We were therefore forced notwithstanding our earnest Desire to make a saving in the article of Batta, to let it continue on it's former Footing.

113. In the same Consultation of the 23 September is enter'd a general List of all your Military Allowances both in Garrison & in the Field, the Boats & Draft & carriage Bullocks & the Victualling of the Troops in Camp which are very heavy Articles, are provided by Contract & We are endeavoring to get them done on the cheapest Terms by putting them up to Sale by public Outcry after sufficient Notice being given.

114. To the said List of Allowances is annexed a Statement of the difference of Pay which We make good according to your Orders to the Officers & Men of Colonel Coote's Regiment, this is somewhat encreased by the difference of Exchange, We reckon the Arcot Rupee to our Military at two Shillings & six pence according to your Exchange of two Shillings & four pence for the current Rupee, the Arcot Rupee valued at eight P Cent better is worth $2-6\frac{24}{100}$ Coll. Coote representing that he could not count the Kings pay to the Regiment any otherwise at your stated Exchange, We consent at his Request that the Company should make good the difference of $\frac{24}{100}$ in every Rupee, untill we receive your Directions, a Captain by this means receives for his Gratuity Rs. 30-As.11-P.6 instead of thirty Rupees & so in proportion to the other Officers & Men of the Regiment.

115. Having no Quarters for the Kings Troops We have erected thatched Barracks for them at Chandernagore, which was esteemed a much healthier Situation than Calcutta & the Officers reside in such of the Houses of the French Inhabitants as were left standing, it saves the Company so much Expence of House Rent.

116. The Bills for Hospital Charges of his Majesty's Troops being presented for Payment We wrote to Colonel Coote that as We understood it had been customary for the Government to provide for all such necessary Expences We requested he would discharge those Bills if he was empowered so to do otherwise he would certifie the Accounts that the same might be transmitted to you to enable you to take the most proper Measures for being reimbursed by the proper Offices in England, Col. Coote acquainted us in answer that as he was not provided with any contingent Money by the Government it was out of his Power to pay those Charges but that he would very readily certifie the Accounts which shall accordingly be transmitted to you by the first Ship dispatched in January & in like Manner regularly every Year.

117. The President & Council of Fort St. George having forwarded to us a Copy of that Paragraph of your Orders to them of the 13 March 1761 which

directs Col. Coote's field Expences to be paid out of your Cash We accordingly communicated the same to the Colonel who informed us in his Letter of the 30 October entered after the Consultation of the 2 Instant, that the Amount of his Charges during the fifteen Months which He commanded the Army on the Coast was Arcot Rupees Sixty Thousand although this being brought into a Sum together may appear large, yet for the Reason mentioned in his said Letter We are of opinion his Table could not have been kept for less, We therefore directed the same to be immediately Discharged.

118. The following Gentlemen belonging to the Fort Marlborough Establishment are at present here, Messrs. Robert Hay & Christopher Watson of Council, Messrs. Scott and Stephanson Factors & Mr. John Ashburner Writer also Lieutenant Pilmor & Surgeons Brindley and Blankerne.

119. All these excepting Mr. Brindley are Prisoners on their parole, some intend for Europe & some to wait here for your Orders, the two Surgeons We shall send to Fort Marlbro' by the first Opportunity as We are informed the Gentlemen who are newly landed there & the Garrison in general are very sickly, We give the Fort Marlbro' Gentlemen whilst they stay here, the same Allowances with those of equal Rank on this Establishment which was absolutely necessary for their Subsistence.

120. We are extremely in want of Assistants for the business of all our Offices, our whole List consisting of only Sixty six for the Service of the Presidency & all the Subordinates, the Engineer & his Assistants are of this Number & we are frequently obliged to employ some as Interpreters, Commissaries & Pay masters in the Field, upon the whole We think that the business of this Presidency & the Subordinates will require at least one Hundred Covenanted Servants & We therefore request you will please to send out as soon as possible a sufficient Addition of Writers to make up that Number.

121. There are three Gentlemen Messrs. John Worthington Turner Isaac Sage & Simeon Droz as monthly Writers in Accomptant & Secretary's Offices & behaved with so much Diligence as to merit our Notice, We therefore take the Liberty to recommend them to be admitted upon your List of Covenanted Servants.

122. We have directed the Military Pay Master to receive from Lieutenant Paul Nedrick the twenty Pounds you advanced to his Wife & made him acquainted with your Directions in the 101 Paragraph of your Commands of the 13 March 1761.

123. Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft returns her thanks for the Indulgence granted her in the 82 Paragraph of your said Letter, & as the care of her large Family now in England obliges her to make a Voyage thither with a design of returning with your Permission to India & bringing some of her Children

with her, We have consented to continue the Allowance to her during her Absence, which We flatter ourselves your Honors will approve in Consideration of the great Expence of her Voyage and Return.

124. To prevent in future any Mistakes in advising of the Bills drawn We purpose to make it a practice to mention them regularly in the postscript after the method used at Madras.

125. A List of the Covenanted Servants with their Salary & Allowances, also a List of the Military Officers with the dates of their Commissions are sent in the Packet, but the List of Inhabitants, free Merchants & Seafaring people is not yet collected neither the list of Ships imported & exported, which the Master Attendant is directed to deliver in, but it meets with some Difficulty on account of the Vessels importing at & exporting from so many different parts of the River, these lists shall be forwarded by the other Ships, & regularly kept up in future.

126. Major Joseph Smith represented to the board that in the year 1759 his Attornies paid money into the Treasury here for two Setts of bills on the Company, but by the death or removal of his Attornies it has happened that of the four bills, only two have come to his Hands, of which two he sent one of each set by the Ship Ajax, which Ship by Mr. Secretary James's Letter of the 27 March we are advised was taken by the French & carried into Brest. He therefore requested We would either grant him fifth [set of] bills or such Certificates as might serve him, should the remaining bill be lost particulars of the said bills are as follows.

The 9 August 1759 a Sett of bills drawn by the Governor & Council at Fort William on the Court of Directors for two Thousand one Hundred Eightyseven Pounds Sterling payable to Captain Joseph Smith or order at three Hundred sixty five days Sight, value received here of Mr. William Fullerton in Current Rupees nineteen Thousand four Hundred and Forty.

The 9 November 1759 a Sett of bills drawn by the Governor & Council at Fort William on the Court of Directors for two Thousand one Hundred Eightyfour Pounds, fifteen Shillings & ten pence Sterling payable to Captain Joseph Smith or order at three Hundred sixty five days Sight, value received here of Mr. William Rider in Current Rupees nineteen Thousand two Hundred Fortytwo, two Annaes & nine Pice.

In consequence of the above Representation We referred to our Treasury book for that Year & found those Sums to have been paid in as Specified, We therefore are to request that notwithstanding any Accident may befall the remaining Bills you will cause the amount of them to be discharged.

127. By all the information We have been able to get of Captain Gaupp's demand, mentioned in the 103 Paragraph of your Letter of the 13 March last, We find that he was for the most part of the Time between September 1757 & July 1758, if not altogether, in Calcutta, when the Troops went

to Patna in October 1757 the Garrison was withdrawn from Sydabad & when they returned in May 1758 Coll. Forde was left in Command there so that it does not appear that Capt. Gaupp is entitled to any batta.

128. By a private Letter from Cossimbuzar we were advised of the death of Mr. Richard Wilder, of a Fever in September last.

Eighthly of Accounts

129. The general Books of this Presidency which We hoped to transmit by the first Ship of this Season are not yet ready nor indeed so forward as We could wish. The Books ending in June 1756, April 1757 & April 1758 are ballanced but are not copied fair, which the Sub Accomptant represents is owing to the want of Assistants, the Journals are continued to April 1760 & while the others are in hand to be ballanced will be brought up to April 1761, so that the whole will be finish'd as fast as can be copied Mr. Magee agreeable to our last Year's advices will ballance the four Setts up to April 1759 & the rest will be done by our Sub Accomptant agreeable to the former Practice.

130. The books of Restitution sent home last Season & this will explain most of the Obscurities mentioned in your Auditor's remarks, the Method he recommends for keeping the Military Paymaster's Accounts We have directed to be observed in future.

Ninthly of Charter

131. At the last Sessions two Men were Convicted of Felony, but after the Indictment had passed thro' both Juries it was found that the value of the Goods was omitted to be inserted, this being amended & sent in again to the Petty Jury they were of Opinion the Prisoners were entitled by our Laws to the Benefit of such Omission by which means they escaped the Punishment they deserved, We beg to be informed for our future Guidance what is the custom in such Cases.

Supplement

132. In consequence of your directions communicated to us by Mr. Secretary James in his Letter of the 30 May 1760 We delivered Copies of the Instructions relative to the transit of Venus to such Gentlemen here as were inclined to make the Observation. We transmitted Copies also to all our Subordinates, The only reports We have received are, one from Mr. Plaisted taken at Chittagong & one from Mr. Magee taken here, of these Copies are transmitted in Packet, but for want of proper Instruments We fear that they are not of a sufficient Exactitude to be of any material use.

133. Finding Mr. Plaisted's Services very usefull at Chittagong, in Surveying the Creeks, Rivers, Islands &c on that Coast We venture to detain him still notwithstanding your Appointment of him to Bombay judging his present Employ to be of great Importance.

134. The account We have received from Captain Simmons of the unfortunate loss of the Fatty Salem is entered in our Consultation of this day & We cannot help giving it as our Opinion that he quitted his Ship too soon.

135. By our Mint Master's report of the Charges of gold Coinage We find it will come under half P Cent We have therefore regulated that Charge as follows untill your pleasure is known or untill We see reason for altering it
For Coinage half P Cent
For Customs half P Cent

Which last half to be divided in the same proportion as you have directed your Customs on Silver, Viz. two fifths to the Company, two fifths to the President & one fifth to the Mint Master.

136. The Reverend Mr. Henry Butler departed this Life this morning of a lingering Illness & as Mr. Staveley one of the Chaplains of Fort St. George is at present here & it is agreeable to him to stay We purpose in consideration of his universal good Character to appoint him to fill this Vacancy untill we receive your further Directions, & as this Appointment will be satisfactory to the Settlement in general we request you will confirm the Exchange.

137. The Master Attendant representing to us the Necessity of your sending out Seafaring Men to be brought up to the River Service that We may have a succession of good & capable Pilots We recommend to your Honors to engage such as you think proper for this Station & to bind them under Covenants to serve the Company for as long a time as possible agreeable to your practice on the Bombay Establishment.

138. It is not in our power to form at present an Indent of naval Stores to be sent out for the use of this Presidency, as only two of the Ships, Viz Hawke & Plassey are arrived, & most of the latter's Stores destined for Madras, & no abstract of the expected Ships' Invoices being yet come to hand

139. We continue the practice of granting Bills on your Honors in exchange for our bonds which by that means preserve their value & Currency. & We receive great Assistance from thence when our Treasury is low. The other Presidencies far from lending us any assistance of Money as We might have hoped from the 65, 66 & 67 Paragraphs of your Letter of the 31 December 1760 have made considerable Drafts upon us, Fort St. George to the amount of about seven Laaks & Bombay about two Laaks. These having been for the most part discharged by Bonds which will now be exchanged for Bills, will make our Drafts upon you more considerable than We expected.

140. We have laden sundry Goods on the Hawke amounting as Per Invoice & bill of Lading enclosed in the Packet to Current Rupees six Laak Twenty seven Thousand eight Hundred (Ct; Rs, 6,27,800).

141. We have laden also sundry stores on her for the use of the Island of St. Helena & have forwarded the Invoice & Bill of Lading for the same to the Deputy Governor & Council there amounting to Current Rupees nine Hundred Twenty two & nine Annas (Ct. Rs. 922-9-0).

Fort William 12th Novr. 1761
Original Transmitted P Hawke
Duplicate P Plassey
Triplicate P Earl of Holdernese

May it please your Honors
Your faithfull & Obedient
humble servants.

Postscript

142. We have drawn upon your Honors twenty Setts of bills of Exchange payable at two Shilling & four pence P Current Rupee & Ninety days after Sight amounting to Current Rupees Twenty eight Thousand eight Hundred Seventy three nine Annas & three Pice (Ct. Rs. 28,873-9-3) or Pounds Sterling three Thousand three hundred Sixty eight, eleven Shillings and nine Pence (£St 3,368-11-9) as follows.

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable		Ct. Rs.	£Sir
			Excha. 2/4 & 90 Days			
October 30th	1	To Captain Giles Stibbert	.	To George Whatley Esqr.	1714 4 6	200 0 0
	1	To Abram Gee Esqr. Executor to the Estate of Mrs. Sarah Chapman	of	To Mr. John Chapman	380 14 9	44 8 10
	1	To Captain Patrick Moran	.	To Mrs. Eliza. Hart.	333 13 6	38 19 0
	1	To Mr. Joseph Gethin	.	To Sir Joseph Sir Thomas Hankey & Co.	308 9 3	36 0 0
	1	To Abram Gee Esqr.	.	To Charles Hay	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	To Mr. Parker Hatley	.	To Joseph Creswicke Esqr	1800 0 0	210 0 0
	1	To Ditto	.	To Mr. George Nail	1200 0 0	140 0 0

10th November	1	to Mr. Wm. Magee	.	.	.	.	To himself or Order	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
	1	to Ditto	.	.	.	.	To James Rannie or Order	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
	1	to Mr. Samuel Howitt	.	.	.	.	To Mrs. Eliza. Howitt	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
	1	to Mr. Wm. Smith	.	.	.	.	To Mrs. Pressla Smith or Order	.	.	.	257	2	3	30	0	0
	1	to Captn. Richd. Smith	.	.	.	.	To himself or Order	.	.	.	4285	11	6	500	0	0
	1	to Mr. Ascanius William Senior	.	.	.	.	To Miss Racheal Senior or Order	.	.	.	514	4	6	60	0	0
	1	to Mr. John Wollaston acct. Mr. John Graham	.	.	.	.	To John & William Mayne Esqrs	.	.	.	2357	2	3	275	0	0
	1	to Mr. Peter Connor.	.	.	.	.	To Mrs. Catherine Hilliard	.	.	.	3720	6	0	434	0	10
	1	to Messrs. Hugh Watts & Anselm Beaumont on acct. Harry Vereist Esqr.	.	.	.	.	To Messrs. Richd. Becher & Willm Nixon.	.	.	.	1714	4	6	200	0	0
	1	to Peter Amyatt Esqr	.	.	.	.	To Willm. Barwell & Ynyr Burges Esqrs	.	.	.	4012	12	0	468	3	1
	1	to Lieut. Archibald Swinton	.	.	.	.	To John. Swinton Junr Esqr	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
	1	to Mr. John Davidson	.	.	.	.	To Mr. Robert Davidson	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
	1	to Lieut. Archibald Swinton	.	.	.	.	To Mr. George Mc. Queen	.	.	.	1131	6	9	132	0	0
	20 Setts										28873	9	3	3368	11	9½

Transmitted P. Ship Hawke

143. We have also drawn upon your Honors Forty nine Setts of bills of Exchange payable at two Shillings & four pence P Current Rupee & three Hundred & Sixty five days after Sight Interest to commence thereon after the Expiration of Ninety days at the rate of four P Cent P Annum for the remainder of the Time the Amount of the said Bills being Current Rupees nine Laak Sixty seven Thousand one Hundred Eighty two, & nine Pice (Ct. Rs. 967182-0-9) or Pounds

IN NOVEMBER 1871

28

Sterling one Hundred twelve Thousand eight Hundred Thirty seven, seventeen Shillings & eleven Pence (£Str. 1,12,837-17-11) as follows:

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct. Rs.	£Str	
1761			365 Days			
August 31st	1	to Mrs. Cornelia Boorwaater Wife of Mr. J. G. Decker & late Widow of Jaques La Tour Esqr.	to Messrs. Herbert Verneulen, Frans de Wilde & Cornelis Van Harthals at Amsterdam on acct. the said Cornelia Boorwaater.	45,000 0 0	5,250 0 0	
	1	to Ditto	to Ditto .. Do. & Do. acct. Do.	36,000 0 0	4,200 0 0	
	1	to Ditto	to Ditto .. Do. & Do. acct. Do.	30,000 0 0	3,500 0 0	
	1	to Ditto	to Ditto .. Do. & Do. acct. Do.	24,000 0 0	2,800 0 0	
October 30th	1	to Mr. John Putham	to himself or Order	3,005 0 0	350 11 8	
	1	to Mr. Charles Child acct. Mr. Henry Summers	to Mr. William Brown	1,714 4 6	200 0 0	
	1	to Mr. Charles Child	to Captain John Mills	4,291 14 6	500 14 5½	
November 10th	1	to Messrs. Plenderleith & Child acct. Captn. Lauchlin Mc. Lean	to Mr. Archibald Maclane or Order.	14,488 13 9	1,690 7 4	
	1	to Messrs. Culling Smith & Anselm Beaumont	to David Rannie Esqr. or Order.	10,000 0 0	1,166 13 ¼	
	1	to Mr. Anselm Beaumont	to George Challoner Esqr. or Order . .	10,000 0 0	1,166 13	
	1	to Do. in full returns for four Chests of Coral Beads GCB No. 14 Imported P Ship Hardwicke 1758 AB No. 1 Imported P Ship Lord Anson 1760 & No. 8 & 9 Imported P Ship Sandwich 1760	to Do.	22,183 11 9	2,588 2 0	
	1	to Mr. Anselm Beaumont	to Philip Jodrell Esqr. or Order	2,560 9 0	298 14 8	
	1	to Do. Acct. Messrs. Francis & John Duval	to Messrs. Gamon & Challoner or Order .	2,560 9 0	298 14 8	
				2,05,804 14 6	24,010 11 5½	

LETTER TO COURT

10th November

1761

1	to Mr. Anselm Beaumont	.	.	.	to Thomas Alured Pincke Esqr.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	to Mr. William Magee	.	.	.	to Thomas Boddam or Order	.	21,428	0	0	2,500	0	0
1	to Captain Richard Smith	.	.	.	to himself or Order	.	10,285	11	0	1,200	0	0
1	to Mr. Ascanius William Senior	.	.	.	to Captain John Donnellan	.	1,890	0	0	220	10	0
1	to Willm. Brightwell Sumner Esqr. acct. Captn. George Willson	.	.	.	to John Hallet Esqr. or Order	.	4,025	11	9	469	13	4
1	to Messrs. Sumner & Smith	.	.	.	to Messrs. Manningham & Frankland	.	8,289	11	0	967	2	7
1	to Do.	.	.	.	to William Frankland Esqr. or Order	.	20,290	15	6	2,367	5	7
1	to Do.	.	.	.	to Charles Manningham Esqr.	.	6,436	12	0	750	19	1
1	to Do.	.	.	.	to Messrs. Jacob Moses & Rapheal Fran- co	.	10,724	8	3	1,251	3	10
1	to The Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart & Wm. B. Sumner Esqrs.	.	.	.	to Saml-Waller Esqr. or Order	.	24,253	2	6	2,899	11	7
1	to Messrs. Sumner & Smith	.	.	.	to William Mackett Esqr. or Order	.	30,778	2	6	3,590	15	8
1	to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr	.	.	.	to Thomas Holme Esqr	.	3,854	4	6	449	13	4
1	to Messrs. Sumner & Smith	.	.	.	to John Cooke Esqr	.	1,714	4	6	200	0	0
1	to Do. acct. the Estate of William Tooke Decd.	.	.	.	Do.	.	1,349	3	3	157	8	2
1	to Mr. Thos. Amphlett on acct. Wm. Mc. Gwire Esqr.	.	.	.	to Arnold Nesbitt & Company	.	10,000	0	0	1,166	13	4
1	to William Brightwell Sumner Esqr	.	.	.	to The Revd. Dr. John Sumner & Mr. Robt. Sumner	.	51,428	9	3	6,000	0	0
1	to Messrs. Sumner & Smith	.	.	.	to John Zeph. Holwell Esqr.	.	99,442	2	0	11,601	11	7
1	to Mr. Thomas Amphlett	.	.	.	to Colonel Robert Clive or Order	.	99,115	2	0	11,563	8	7
1	to Do.	.	.	.	Do.	.	1,16,031	5	6	13,536	19	9
1	to Do.	.	.	.	to Mr. George Clive	.	8,500	0	0	991	13	4
1	to The Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr. acct. the Estate of Captain Bernard Forrester Decd.	.	.	.	to Messrs. Chs. Raymond & Thos. Grindon	.	8,260	2	0	963	13	7

34

Carried over

7,45,360 11 3

86,958 14 11

387

12 NOVEMBER 1761

Dates	Sets	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct. Rs.		£Str.
10th November	34					
1	to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr. in part Return for two Chests of Coral Beads No. 23 & 24 Imported P Ship Hawke 1764	365 Days to Judah Supino or Order	Brot. over	7,45,360 11 3	86,958 14 11½	
				2,627 11 9	306 11 4	
1	to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr. in full returns for 2 Chests of rough Coral MDCFNH No. 1 & 2 Imported P Ship Norfolk 1757*	to Messrs. Isaac Mendes da Nunes Borthers	Costa &	3,548 6 0	413 19 6½	
1	to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr. in full returns for two Chests of Coral Beads FSB No. 1 and No. 8 GM Imported P Ship Lord Anson 1760*	to Mr. Joseph Salvador		5,569 10 0	649 15 9½	
1	to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr. on acct. John Smith Esqr.	to John Smith Esqr. or Order		77,403 3 9	9,030 7 6½	
1	to Messrs. Hugh Watts A. Beaumont on acct. Harry Verelst Esqr.	to Mrs. Jane Court or Order		252 5 3	29 8 9	
1	to Messrs. Cullig. Smith & Fras. Charlton on acct. the Estate of W. Forth.	to Messrs. Becher & Nixon		43,802 12 6	5,110 6 6	
1	to Messrs. Culling Smith & Anselm Beaumont acct. Roger Drake Junr.	to Roger Drake, Beeston Long & Roger Drake Esqr. Junr.		46,909 13 0	5,472 16 3	
1	to Culling Smith Esqr	to Mrs. Elizabeth Beard		1,579 15 9	184 6 7	
1	to Ditto acct. the Estate of Nicholas Clerambault.	to Joseph Guinand Esqr.		398 15 0	46 10 10	
1	to Ditto	to Capt. Robt. Campbell & Mr. George Catnack		10,693 5 6	1,247 11 1	
1	to Ditto	to William Watts Esqr.		3,990 0 6	465 10 1	
1	to Ditto	to Capt. Wm. Jennings & John Baker Esqr.		1,225 13 6	143 0 4	

*Please see chart of Company's trade symbols facing p. 202 of *Fort William—India House Correspondence*, Vol. II

1	to Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft acct. James Irwin	to Mrs. Van Hoeck & Mr. & Mrs. Sheels	8,053	7	9	939	11	5
	Infant.							
1	to Do. Sarah Gamber Irwin, James	Do.	12,302	10	3	1,435	6	2
	on acct. Irwin & Eyles Irwin Infants							
1	to Do. acct. Anna Maria Mapletoft	to the Revd. Mr. John Mapletoft	3,463	3	0	404	0	9
49 Sets			9,67,182	0	9	1,12,837	17	11

Transmitted P Ship Hawke

Fort William

We are
 May it please your Honors
 Your most faithfull & most Obedient Humble Servants
 Henry Van Sittart/Peter Amyatt/Culling Smith/Warren Hastings.

12th Novr. 1761

12 NOVEMBER 1761

LETTER DATED 14 DECEMBER 1761

Shipping details—bills of exchange.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors,

[1.] We address'd you fully in our Letter of the 12 Ultimo under the established Heads by your Ship Hawke which was dispatched from Ingellee by the Master Attendant the 22 of the same Month & left her Pilot the next day.

[2.] Observing an exception made at the foot of the bill of Lading by Capt. Kent, We directed the Export Warehouse Keeper to deliver in a report of the same, which he has accordingly done this day & is entered after the Consultation to which We beg leave to refer your Honors for particulars.

[3.] The Holdernesse imported here the 7th the Warren the 9th and the Fox the 12th Instant.

[4.] The York We have this day dispatched for Bombay with a full Lading of Salt Petre, being thirteen Thousand six Hundred & Fifty Maunds & shall by the first safe Opportunity send them six Thousand three Hundred & Fifty Maunds more to compleat the quantity of Twenty thousand Maunds which we fear we shall not be able to exceed.

[5.] In conformity to your Orders in the 17th Paragraph of your Com-mands of the 13th March 1761 We have made Enquiries concerning the Mer-maid's Prize, & learning that the Papers belonging to the Vessell were thrown over board, when she was attacked, We called the Master of her before the Board & took his Deposition upon Oath of the whole Transaction, In this packet We now send one of the said Depositions & hope it will prove sufficient to condemn her.

[6.] In our address by the Hawke We informed you We should be able to give a lading to five Ships & that We had wrote to the Gentlemen at Madras & Bombay to know what assistance they could contribute, We have since heard from the Gentlemen at Madras that they expect only to have three hundred Bales in the Month of February, for these we shall leave room in one of the five Ships from hence unless the Gentlemen there should resolve to dispatch home either the Admiral Watson or Royal George, & for the disposal of the Sixth Ship which cannot be provided with a Cargo to Europe, the Gentlemen at Fort St. George have recommended that she be dispatched to the Maurities with a Cargo of Provisions to be sold to the Squadron which is Supposed to be destined for the attack of the French Islands, & in case o

the Success of that Enterprize to carry back to the West Coast the Chinese Artificers &c which Count D'Estaing transported from thence & if she can be provided with a sufficient Quantity of Pepper at Fort Marlbro' to proceed from thence to China if not to go from thence to Fort St. George where the President & Council will lade on her such Redwood & Money as can be spared & dispatch her to China, As We agree with the Gentlemen at Madras that this will be an usefull Employment for the remaining Ship We shall accordingly destine one for this Service unless any new Circumstance should occur to prevent it, & We shall direct her to call first at Fort Marlbro', to land there what Provisions may be wanted for the Settlement as well as some Artificers, Lascars &c which We have engaged for the use of that Settlement.

[7.] We have Stationed the Fox for this Service & shall dispatch her by the 15th of next Month, & the rest of the Ships as follows. The Holder-nesse and Godolphin to Europe direct with a full lading the first the middle of January, the other the latter end of February or beginning of March & the Warren to Madras to be filled up unless the Gentlemen there should advise us of an Intention of dispatching the Admiral Watson or Royal George.

[8.] We have begun to make some advances of Money to our Subordinates for the encouragement of a good Investment for next Season & beg leave to assure your Honors that We shall do our utmost to employ to the Company's best advantage the Means which are in our Hands.

[9.] In this packett you will receive a Letter addressed to your Honors by our Engineer which We beg leave to recommend to your Consideration.

[10.] Agreeable to what We wrote you in our Letter P Hawke We required of the Prussian Supra Cargoes a List of the Goods laden on the Ship King of Prussia which is entered after the Consultation of this day.

[11.] We are sorry to observe your Honors have sent us no Stationary by either of the Ships lately imported as it puts us to great Inconvenience. We must therefore recommend to you to divide the Quantity of that Article which you intend for this Presidency equally on the several Ships that We may be sure of an early Supply.

[12.] Application having been made to us for payment of two Bonds in the name of Dorothy Bellamy amounting to Current Rupees four Thousand three Hundred Fifty one, fourteen Annas & three Pice & for which Certificates had been granted by your President Mr Drake & his Council. We referred to the list of the Company's debt at Interest which is entered after the Consultation of the 14th January 1760 & observed the above Bonds to stand in the Column among those which remain unpaid, but as your Honors have positively forbid our discharging any without your Particular Orders, We shall let this remain unpaid till We receive your Directions, but must beg leave to recommend it to be discharged as We believe it to be really due.

[13.] Major Yorke having apply'd for leave to resign his Commission in order to return to Europe We granted his request & he accordingly takes his passage in the Plassey.

[14.] On this Ship We send you twelve French Officers on parole & seven French Prisoners besides three Invalids for whom We have paid Captain Ward the same rates as allowed Captain Kent.

[15.] We have laden on this Ship sundry Goods & Merchandize as P Invoice & bill of Lading enclosed in this Packet amounting to Current Rupees Six Laak Thirty two Thousand six Hundred (Ct. Rs. 6,32,600).

[16.] We have likewise put on board sundry Articles for the use of the Island of St. Helena as P Invoice & bill of Lading forwarded to the Deputy Governor & Council there, amounting to Current Rupees Eight Hundred sixty eight, seven Annacs and six Pice (Ct. Rs. 868-7-6).

Postscript

[17.] We have drawn upon your Honors Twenty six Setts of Bills of Exchange payable at two Shillings & four pence Current Rupee & ninety Days after Sight amounting to Current Rupees Forty one Thousand six Hundred Ninety, eleven Annacs and six Pice (Ct. Rs. 41,690-11-6) or Pounds Sterling four Thousand eight Hundred Sixty three Eighteen Shillings and four Pence (£Str 4863-18-4) as follows.

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct. Rs.	£str.
			90 Days		
10th Decem- ber 1761	1	to Mr. Thomas Bristow	. . . to Mr. Richard Bristow or order	214 4 6	25 0 0
	1	to Mr. Charles Weston	. . . to John Zephth. Holwell Esqr.	3,405 12 3	397 8 9
	1	to Mr. Saml. Middleton	. . . to Henry Hastings Esqr. or Order	2,142 13 7	250 0 0
	1	to Capt. Alexr. Scott & Mr. Charles Weston	. . . to Mrs. Mary Blany Spinston or Order	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	to Mr. Fitz Owen Jones	. . . to Messrs. Jno. Rosier Senr. & Jno. Rosier Junr. or either of their Orders.	102 13 9	12 0 0

1	to Mr. Martin White			to himself or Order			4,285 11 6	500 0 0
1	to Wm. Brightwell	Sumner Esqr. acct.		to John Hallett Esqr. or Order			600 0 0	70 0 0
	George Wilson							
1	to Major Jn. Carnac & Messrs. Rd. Barwell, Parker Hatley & J ^s Morgan			to Messrs. Wm. Barwell Junr. & J ^{ne} . Le Gros			1,200 0 0	140 0 0
1	to Mr. Willm. Sutherland			to Mr. Willm. Mackay			428 9 0	30 0 0
1	to Ditto			to Mr. Benjamin Sutherland			171 7 0	20 0 0
1	to Mr. Hugh Watts			to Wm. Watts & Thos. Watts Esqr.			3,000 0 0	350 0 0
1	to Mr. Jno. Wood acct. Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted			to Mr. Thos. Burnett			857 2 3	100 0 0
1	to Ditto			to Jonathan Perrie			514 4 6	60 0 0
1	to Ditto			to Mrs. Mary Wood			342 13 6	40 0 0
1	to Chas. Stafford Playdell Esqr.			to John Zeph ^h . Holwell Esqr.			857 2 3	100 0 0
1	to Messrs. Saml. Howitt & Philip Dacres.	Milner		to Mrs. Eliza. Howitt Esqr.			1,714 4 6	200 0 0
1	to John Johnstone Esqr.			to Sir Jams. Johnstone & Mr. Wm. Johnstone			4,285 11 6	500 0 0
1	to Mr. Russell Skinner			Ditto			3,205 11 6	374 0 0

Carried over

28,185 11 10

3,288 6 9

THE OLD BANK BUILDING

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct. Rs.	£Str.
10th December 1761			365 Days		
	1 to Major Martin Yorke	. . . . .	. . . . . to himself or Order	1,97,142 13 9	23,000 0 0
	1 to Mr. Thomas Cooke	. . . . .	. . . . . to Chas. Douglas Esqr. or Order	18,088 2 3	2,110 5 8
	1 to Ditto	acct. Mr. Miles Baine	to Geoe. Baine Esqr. or Order	1,285 11 6	150 0 0
	1 to Ditto		to the Revd. Mr. Chas. Manderville or Order	747 15 0	87 5 2
	1 to Mr. Martin White	. . . . .	. . . . . to himself or Order	61,714 4 6	7,200 0 0
	1 to Abram Gee Esqr.	. . . . .	. . . . . to Thomas Holme Esqr.	3,675 0 0	428 15 0
	1 to Ditto	. . . . .	. . . . . to himself or Order	6,163 0 0	719 0 4
	1 to Ditto	. . . . .	. . . . . to Ditto	13,936 3 3	1,625 17 10
	1 to Mr. Hugh Watts	. . . . .	. . . . . to William Mackett Esqr.	6,672 6 3	778 8 11
	1 to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr. in part return for a Chest of coral No. 13 Imported P. Ship Walpole 1756.		. . . . . to Mr. Judah Supino	253 4 0	29 10 11
	1 to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr. in part returns for a Chest of Coral R. B. No. 18 Imported P. Ship Walpole 1761.		. . . . . to Richard Barwell Esqr.	752 8 6	87 15 11
	1 to Messrs. Culling Smith & Wm. Bl. Sumner		to John Zephth. Holwell Esqr.	50,000 0 0	5,833 6 8
	1 to Mr. Saml. Howitt	acct. the Estate of	to Mr. Tilman Hancall	198 12 9	23 3 10
	1 to Mr. Anselm Beaumont in full returns for one Chest of Coral A B No. 10 Imported P. Ship Sandwich 1760.		to George Challoner Esqr.	4,059 15 0	473 13 2
	1 to Mr. Robt. Gregory	acct. Edwd. Holden	to Edwd. Holden Cruttenden Esqr.	3,000 0 0	350 0 0
		Cruttenden Esqr.			

Dates

Sets

To whom granted

To whom payable

Ct.Rs.

£ Str.

1	to Mr. Thos. Amphlett acct. Willm. Mc. to Arnold Nesbitt Esqr. and Co. Gwire Esqr.	.	.	77,142	12	9	9,000	0	0
1	to Peter Amyatt Esqr. acct. Willm. Fullerton to William Fullerton Esqr. Esqr.	.	.	29,099	5	6	3,394	18	5
1	to Ditto	.	.	98,987	3	3	11,548	10	2
				5,72,919			7	3	66,840
18							12	0	0

Fort William,
 14th December 1761.
 Original transmitted Per Plassey
 Duplicate P. Earl of Holdernese
 Triplicate P. Warren (Via Madrass)

We are May it please your Honors
 Your Honors most faithfull
 & most Obedient Humble Servants
 Henry Van Sittart/Peter Amyatt/Culling Smith/
 Warren Hastings/John Johnstone.

1761 Dec 14
 1761 Dec 14
 1761 Dec 14

LETTER DATED 24 DECEMBER 1761

Shipping details.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

[1.] We take the Opportunity by the Prussian Ship to acquaint you of the Arrival, Departure & Destination of the Company's Ships.

[2.] The Hawke imported here in July & left her Pilot with a full Cargo for Europe the 23 November. The Plassey arrived in the River the 17 August having fallen to Leeward of Madras, She is also laden with a full Cargo for Europe, & her dispatches were sent down to Ingellee three days ago. The Holderness imported the 7 Decr. the Warren the 9 & the Fox the 12. The Godolphin returned from the Gulph of Moco to Bombay the beginning of September & We are advised she was to sail from thence for this place the 1st November, The Holderness We hope to be able to dispatch with a full Cargo to Europe the latter end of next Month, The Warren about the same Time to call at Madras to be filled up with about Three hundred Bales which the Gentlemen there inform us they shall have ready & the Godolphin directly for Europe, the end of February or beginning of March. The Fox is destined to go to the West Coast with the Supplies wanted for the Settlements there from thence to proceed to the French Islands (supposing them to be taken) to bring back the Chinese Artificers which Count D'Estaing carried off with any other usefull People for the West Coast Settlements, from thence to be dispatched for Canton with a Cargo of Pepper.

[3.] The York imported the 26 Octr. from Bombay with a Cargo of Cotton & was returned the 14 Instant with a full Lading of Salt Petre.

[4.] The Falmouth & Prince Edward were dispatched from Madras for Europe the 6 October. The Admiral Watson is gone on freight to Manilha & the Earl Temple We are advised was to go from Madras to the West Coast.

[5.] The Prince George, Worcester & Osterley arrived at Fort Marlbro' in the Month of July & resettled the Place, the two former proceeded from thence on their Voyage to Canton & the Osterley remained as a Guardship to the new Settlement but We are informed by private Advices from Madras of the 2d. November that she imported there the day before with an Account of a large French Ship of War being on the West Coast What Resolutions the Gentlemen at Madras may have taken on this advice We are yet

unacquainted, but hope the Earl Temple & Osterley or some of his Majesty's Ships may be gone in quest of the Enemy.

Fort William,
24th December 1761.

We are May it please your Honors
Your Honors most faithfull & most Obedient
Humble Servants

Original transmitted

per Foreign Convoy

Duplicate per Ditto.

Triplicate per Earl of Holderness

Henry Van Sittart/ Peter Amyatt /

Warren Hastings / John Johnstone.

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LETTER DATED 21 JANUARY 1762

Shipping news—difficulty regarding weights and measures—farming of Kharijuri pargana—position of account books—bills of exchange.

TO the Hon'ble Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

1. We address'd you by the Plassey under date the 14 Decr. 1761 which Ship was dispatched from Ingellee the 28 of the same Month but on account of light Winds, did not quit her Pilot till the 2d Instant.

2. Since the Departure of the Plassey, We took the Opportunity of the Prussian Ship to write you a short Letter to acquaint you of the Arrival, Departure and Destination of the several Ships, Copy of it We have transmitted by a Dutch Ship which Sailed some few Days since, & in this Packett We now send you Triplicate thereof as likewise Triplicate of our Address P Hawke & duplicate of that P Plassey.

3. The Fox will be dispatched the 25th for Madras to proceed from thence to Bencoolen & Mauritius We have been prevented from sending her away sooner by the difficulty of getting a sufficient Quantity of Rice to lade on her, the Warren We hope to dispatch by the 10 of February to call at Madras as before advised; The Godolphin is not yet arrived.

4. Captain Ward when he sign'd his Bills of Lading at Ingelee objected in like manner with Capt. Kent of the Hawke against the Saltpetre as being wet & further against the Redwood as being hollow & full of Dirt. By the Export Warehouse Keeper's Report in Consultation of the 8th Inst. we do not find that Capt. Ward made any Objection either to the Saltpetre or the Redwood when it was weigh'd off nor that there was the least room

for it as to the former Article—As to the Redwood it is very probable when it came to be cut up by the Captain for the Convenience of Stowage some hollow places would be found filled with Dirt.

5. The several Commanders who have arrived this Season having complained at the Copper, Lead &c being received here by the Country Weights, as Maunds, Seers & Chuttacks, We must request that you will either regulate this Affair with the Owners or send us a supply of English Weights for the use of our Warehouses & Storehouse.

N.B. One Maund is 1b. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ consequently One Maund and a half is exactly one hundred Weight. Forty Seer make one Maund Sixteen Chutricks one Seer.

6. The Contracts for Victualling the Troops in the field, & providing Carriage & Draft Bullocks &c have been sold as minuted in the Consultations of the 23 Novr. & 24 Decr. last—the Contracts are drawing out agreeable to the Advertisement, which when finished shall be copied into a book & transmitted by the latter Ship for your observation. The Boat Contract was put up likewise but no Person would undertake it, We have therefore order'd the Commissary General to take that Office under his Charge & to provide boats for the Company's use in the cheapest & best Manner possible.

7. In our Letter P Hawke We informed you of the death of the Reverend Mr Henry Butler—We are now to inform you of the demise of the Revd. Mr. John Cape our other Chaplain, & as the Duty of this Place is too much for Mr. Staveley to perform without Assistance, We have wrote to the Gentlemen at Fort St. George to request them to send Mr More down to assist in the duties of the Chaplaincy till your pleasure is known, which we hope you will not disapprove of.

8. On the 23 November 1761 the Committee of Lands laid before us a Sett of Proposals which had been delivered to them by Mr. Gregory & other Gentlemen for undertaking the Cultivation of the Purgunnah of Cory Jury, & on the same day We received likewise another Sett of Proposals from Mr. Johnstone & other Gentlemen, We determined therefore to give further Time till the first of January for receiving such other Proposals as might offer & then to grant the Lease to the best Bidder. The only further Proposals made were a fresh Sett by Mr. Gregory and the Gentlemen concerned with him, which being more advantageous to the Company than his former or than those delivered in by Mr. Johnstone have accordingly been accepted. These Proposals are entered at length after our Consultation of the 4th Jany. to which We beg leave to refer your Honors, only observing if the Undertaking succeeds it may prove in time a great Addition to the Company's Revenues & even if it fails they have a certain Benefit of the yearly Rent of Sicca Rupees two Thousand five Hundred for the first seven Years, three Thousand for the second seven Years & seven Thousand five Hundred for the third seven Years & of having twenty Thousand Begas cleared in seven Years, thirty Thousand in fourteen Years and forty Thousand in Twenty one Years or a forfeit equivalent.

See Committee of new Lands Proceedings of the 14 & 28 October, 11 November & 9 December 1761 & 13 January 1762

to it. We are getting a Lease drawn out in the most regular & binding Manner that it can be done here, but as it [is] an Agreement to remain in force for several Years or perhaps for ever, We think it might be most proper for both parties, to have authentic Writings drawn in England & sent out to be executed, We have accordingly desired the undertakers to employ some Person on their part for this purpose & your Honours may in like Manner appoint such Person as you think fit on the part of the Company.

9. The Norfolk & Chesterfield not being yet arrived We have received no supply of Stationary, of which our whole Stock remaining is the small quantity in the List entered in the Consultation of the 18 Instant. We have therefore been obliged to direct the Gentlemen at the Subordinates to make use of the Country Paper & shall very soon be reduced to the same shift here.

10. We are likewise much distressed for Medicines not having received and this Year from Europe excepting one Chest Designed for Madras on the Plassey which we have detained.

11. We have sent on this Ship at the request of Col. Coote, ten Invalid Soldiers of his Majesty's 84th Regiment & one Woman a follower of the same Regiment thirteen French Officers sent here from the Coast & seven Non-Commissioned Officers with two of their wives of all which proper Lists are enclosed & the Captain has been paid as usual for their Passage & Provisions.

12. Of the twelve Officers on parole which Capt. Ward was ordered to receive & for whose passage he was paid for did not reach the Ship, which We mention that your Honors may settle that difference with the Owners of the Plassey.

13. We have sent you in this Packet Rolls of the Military on this Establishment consisting of one Troop of Dragoons, one Troop of Hussars, two Companies of Artillery & eleven Companies of Infantry & We shall continue to send the same annually your Honors will be able to judge from thence how much We are in want of English Recruits.

14. We sent by the Hawke the Genl. Books of this Presidency ballanced to May 1756, those ending May 1757 are ballanced, & are now copying fair, those ending 1758 are quite brought up & are in Mr. Magee's hand to be ballanced, those ending 1759 are quite brought up & will be put in hand to be ballanced as soon as the others are finished & those ending 1760 & 1761 will be ready by the time the others are closed.

15. The general Outcry made the 15th Instant the broad Cloth sold for more than twelve P Cent higher than the former Outcry & the Copper as much below as you will observe by the Account transmitted in the Packet —Perpets continue still out of demand;

16. Mr. Culling Smith's health not permitting him to remain longes in India he has requested leave to resign the Service & now takes his passage on the Holdernesse.

17. In this Packet you will receive an Address & State of the Marine from our Master Attendant.

18. We have laden on this Ship sundry Goods & Merchandize as P Invoice & bill of Landig amounting to Current Rupees 645300-.-.

19. We have likewise laden sundry Stores for the use of the Island of St. Helena amounting as P Invoice & bill of Lading enclosed to them, to Curr. Rupees 840-5-3.

Fort William,

21st January 1762.

Postscript

We have drawn upon your Honors Twenty Setts of bills of Exchange payable at two Shillings & four Pence P Current Rupee & ninety Days after Sight amounting to Current Rupees Twenty Thousand three Hundred and Sixty Twelve Annaes & six Pice (Ct. Rs. 20, 360-12-6) or Pounds Sterling Two Thousand three Hundred & Seventy five Eight Shillings & eight Pence (£ Str. 2,375-8-8) as follows.

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct. Rs.	£Str.
January 15th 1762.	1	to Mr. John Wollaston	90 Days to himself or Order	428 9 0	50 0 0
	1	to Ensign James Couper	to Mr. James Couper	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	to Mr. Robt. Gregory acct. Capt. Ambrose Perry.	to Mr. James Chancey	428 9 0	50 0 0
	1	to Do. acct. John Cartier Esqr	to Stephan Law Esqr	1,971 6 9	230 0 0
	1	to Do. acct. Ditto	to Ditto	428 9 0	50 0 0
	1	to Do. acct. Do.	to Willm. B Sumner Esqr.	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	to Mrs. Mary Bowers	to Captain Peter Pegue	432 0 0	50 8 0
	1	to Abram Gee Esqr.	to himself or Order	2,100 0 0	245 0 0
	1	to Mr. George Williamson acct. Mr. Willm. Smith.	to Mr. Thos. Smith	857 2 3	100 0 0

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct. Rs.	£Str.
	1	to Culling Smith Esqr.	to himself or Order	4,285 11 6	500 0 0
	1	to Mr. Brion Scotney acct. Capt. Peter Carstairs.	to Messrs. Alexr. Callinder & Allan Auld	3,000 0 0	350 0 0
	1	to Captain Matthews	to Mrs. Mary Matthews Senr.	428 9 0	50 0 0
	1	to Ditto	to Mrs. Mary Matthews Junr.	428 9 0	50 0 0
	1	to Ditto	to Mr. Ellenor Wade	428 9 0	50 0 0
	1	to Mr. Tyso Saul Hancock	to Francis Austin Esqr.	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	to Ditto	to James Barton Esqr.	342 13 9	40 0 0
	1	to John Johnstone Esqr.	to Messrs. Bennet and Jno. Coxon or Order	86 0 0	10 0 8
	1	to Mr. Richd. Barwell	to Mr. James or Alice Tingle	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	to Mr. Saml. Middleton	to Henry Hastings Esqr.	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	to Mr. Anselm Beaumont	to Mrs. Margaret Batson	428 9 0	50 0 0
				20,360 12 6	2,375 8 8

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LETTER TO COURT

We have also drawn upon your Honors Twenty six Setts of Bills of Exchange payable at three Hundred & Sixty five Days after Sight & two Shillings & four Pence P Current Rupee Interest to commence thereon after the Expiration of ninety Days at the rate of four P. Cent P. Ann' for the remainder of the Time the Amount of the said Bills being Current Rupees six Laaks forty Thousand two Hundred Sixty seven & six Annaes (Ct. Rs. 640267-6-0) or Pounds Sterling Seventy four Thousand six Hundred Ninetyseven, Seventeen Shillings & two Pence (£ Str. 74697-17-2) as follows.

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct. Rs.	£Str.
15th Jany. 1762	1	to Charles Stafford Playdell Esqr.	365 Days to John Zephaniah Holwell Esqr.	6,000 0 0	700 0 0
	1	to Ditto acct. John Zeph. Holwell Esqr.	to Ditto.	1,296 0 0	151 4 0
	1	to Mr. Thomas Cooke	to Charles Douglas Esqr.	25,714 4 6	3,000 0 0
	1	to Ditto acct. Mr. John Cathcart.	to George Ross	2,023 7 0	236 1 4
	1	to Mr. John Taylor	to Mrs. Eliz. Margas	10,927 1 9	1,274 16 6

15th & 16 Janu-

ary, 1762.	1	to Mr. Willm. Magee acct. the Estate of John to George Gray Senr. Esqr.	538	0	3	62	15	4
		Law Deceased.						
	1	to Mr. Robt. Gregory acct. Capt. Peter Lond to Messrs. Henry & Peter Muilman	257	2	3	30	0	0
	1	to Peter Amyatt Esqr. & Mr. Richd. Bar- to Willm. Barwell Esqr.	11,774	2	6	1,373	13	0
		well.						
			6,40,267	6	0	74,697	17	
	26							

We are May it please your Honors
 Your Honors most faithful & most
 Obedient Humble Servants
 Henry Van Sittart/Peter Amyatt /
 Gulling Smith/Warren Hastings/
 John Johnstone.

Fort William
 21st Janry. 1762
 Original transmitted
 P—Earl of Holdernese
 Duplicate P Warren (Via Madrass)
 Triplicate P Godolphin

LETTER DATED 15 FEBRUARY 1762

Regulation of accounts of Fort William fortifications—Mir Qasim fulfils financial obligations—limitations of Board's powers regarding taxation—bills of exchange.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors

1. We have this Day dispatched to your Honors via Madras your Ship Warren Capt. Glover with a full Loading, & by her We send you Duplicate of our Address P Ship Earl of Holderness, as well as Triplicate of that P Plassey.

2. Your Ship Fox, Captain Hume left Ingellee the 31st of last Month, to proceed on her Voyage to Fort St. George, & the Earl of Holderness the 5th Inst. for England.

3. The Godolphin not being arrived & no Account as yet received concerning her makes us apprehensive lest some Accident has befallen her by which she may be prevented proceeding on her passage hither in time to be Dispatched home with the remainder of our Investment. We have therefore wrote to the President & Council at Fort St. George in case they should have any such Intelligence of the Godolphin to forward to us with all Expedition either the Admiral Watson or Royal George.

4. The Accounts of the Expences of the Deccan Expedition not being copied fair in time to transmit to your Honors last Season, has been since Completed & is now forwarded for your Observation by this Ship in the book Packet.

5. We have likewise transmitted by this Ship the general Books of this Presidency ending April 1757, a general Account of Disbursements account of French Prisoners since the Commencement of the present War, & Account of the over Charges at the new Works to shew your Honors what part has been received of those Frauds & what remains outstanding & which We shall continue our Endeavours to collect to the utmost of the Abilities of the People concerned.

6. The Commissary general's Accounts of Camp Expences brought up to April 1761 in the regular Form settled in Consultation 22 Sept. 1760 will be sent to you by the next Opportunity.

7. We have likewise sent for your Information a Statement of the Produce of Burdwan, Midnapore & Chittagong from the Time of our having these Possessions to the 31 Ultimo the Sum received from those Provinces appears

to be Curr. Rupees Fifty three Laaks Thirty three Thousand seventy one Seven Annaes and six Pice (Ct. Rs. 53,33,071-7-6).

8. In Consultation 1st February observing that We had upwards of Twenty Laaks in our Treasury & further Sums daily coming in account the Revenues & for Bills of Exchange on your Honors & that in all Probability We should not be under the Necessity of incurring so large Military Expences as of late Years, & it being strenuously Recommended to us in your Letters the last & this Season to send Treasure to Madras in order to be forwarded to China on any of your Ships that might be bound thither or by any casual Ships that might not be dispatched home from your three Presidencies, We therefore resolved to Lade five Laaks partly on the Warren and partly on a Country Ship consigned to the President & Council at Fort St. George to whom We wrote as well as to the Gentlemen at Bombay to advise of this our Resolution, that in case they had any Ships on hand they might be Employed on this Service.

9. The Committee of Works having represented to us the Necessity of the Storekeeper's keeping a regular Sett of Books instead of a bare Account of Receipts & Issues without any Valuation, as was the Practice before. We have directed him to open Books according to the Form presented by the Committee to commence from the 1st January 1762 For further particulars We beg leave to refer you to the said Report of the Committee in Consultation 4th January.

10. For want of these necessary Regulations the Materials expended at the new Fort have never been regularly Carried off to the Debit of the Works, but being paid for Monthly by the Paymaster under the head of Materials have from thence been Transferr'd into the general Books & no part wrote off from the beginning unto this Time. By this means the Accounts heretofore sent you of the Cost of the new Fort cannot be correct, but having caused an Account to be taken of the remains of Stores & Ballances due from the Contractors for Materials the 31st December last in order to open the Storekeeper's Books as beforementioned the Account of Materials expended is thereby certified & We send your Honors in the Packet a correct Account of the Cost of the new Fort to that Time.

11. The Ballance which was due from the Nabob as mentioned in the 64 Paragraph of our Address by the Hawke, has been fully Discharged & a general Receipt given him for all the Sums paid by him in Compliance with his Predecessor's Engagements & his own. The said Receipt is enter'd after our Consultation of the 8 of this Month.

12. In this Packet We have likewise sent you an Account of the Disbursements & Advances for his Majesty's 84th Regiment certified by Col. Coote which We hope will be sufficient to enable you to recover the Amount from the Government.

13. We have sent you by this Ship Duplicate of the Engineer's Letter to your Honors P Ship Hawke also a plan of the Town & Fortifications o

Fort William with the Esplanade and new Roads propos'd. The Engineer having in his Letter entered after the Consultation of the 11th Instant represented to us to consider of the means of raising Money to defray the Expence of the proposed Roads, but as We do not find We have any regular Power for assisting [assessing] the Inhabitants We see no Method of easing the Company of any part of the Expence, after many Presentments from the Grand Jury with regard to the badness of the Drains in the Town an Assessment was proposed & a plan made by us as Justices of the Sessions after which an Objection was raised that the Acts of Parliament regarding Assessments did not extend to the East Indies & the Assessors We appointed refused to act by the Commission We had issued. We mention these Circumstances that your Honors may give us your Opinion & Directions for our Guidance in like Cases.

14. Mr. Plaisted having been sent again by the Chief & Council at Chittagong to make a fresh Survey of that Coast, which being executed on a larger Plan & more correct than his former, was forwarded to us. We directed our Engineer to make a Copy of the same to be Transmitted to your Honors, which is accordingly done by this Ship for your Inspection.

15. Of the Saltpetre by this Ship 1800 Maunds are of the production of Purnea, the brown Sort spoken of in the 74th Paragraph of your Commands of the 1st April 1760. A Parcel arriving here We agreed for the Purchase of Three Thousand Maunds & although the Quality of it seemed very bad it being mixed with much Dirt besides its natural brown Colour, yet as the Proprietor of it consented to let the Company have it at 5 Rups. which was about 2 Rups. below what it would have fetch'd in the Market we thought it for your Interest to purchase it, especially as We wanted some to compleat the Warren's Tonnage our last Fleet from Patna not being here arrived. The immediate Dispatch of the Warren would not allow Time for reboiling what was necessary to lade on that Ship but the remaining 1200 Maunds we have ordered to be reboiled, which done it shall be Consigned to you by the next Ship with an Account what is lost by the fining.

16. We have sent Mr. Law, the Chief of the French Factory at Cossimbuzar with three other French Gentlemen on this Ship as likewise ten Invalids of Col. Coote's Regt. their Passage has been paid for as usual & now enclose Lists of them.

17. We have laden on this Ship sundry Goods & Merchandize consigned to your Honors amountg. to Current Rupees Six Laak forty five Thousand (Ct. Rs. 6,45,000) as P Invoice & Bill of Lading which you will receive from the President & Council at Madras being forwarded to them in order that should they have Occasion to make any Alteration in her Cargo to note it & forward them to your Honors.

18. We have likewise laden sundry Articles for the use of the Island of St. Helena amountg. to Current Rupees Eight Hundred and Fifty four (Ct. Rs. 854.—) as P. Invoice & Bill of Lading forwarded in our Letter to the Deputy Governor & Council there.

Postscript

We have drawn upon your Honors Twenty one Setts of Bills of Exchange payable at two Shillings & four Pence P. Curr. Rupee & ninety Days after Sight amountg. to Current Rupees Thirty Thousand six Hundred Forty seven, five Annas & three Pice (Ct. Rs. 30647-5-3) or Pounds Sterling Three Thousand five Hundred seventy five, ten Shillings & six Pence, (£Str. 3575-10-6) as follows:

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To Whom payable	Ct.	Rs.	£Str.
90 Days						
10th February 1762	1	to Capt. Thos. Swaine	to Mr. Richd. Roberts Broker . . .	214	4 6	25 0 0
	1	to Mr. Robert Brown	to Messrs. Lewis & Nixon . . .	3,100	0 0	361 13 4
	1	to Ditto acct. Mr. Willm. Clark	to Mr. Ballentine . . .	594	8 11	69 7 4
	1	to Mr. Richd. Barwell	to Mr. Wilim. Barwell Junr. . . .	2,000	0 0	233 6 8
	1	to Mrs. Mary Bull	to Mr. John Nairne of Garleton North Britain.	514	4 6	60 0 0
	1	to John Johnstone Esqr.	to Mr. Thos. Pattie of Guildhall . .	4,285	11 6	500 0 0
	1	to Mr. Charles Rogers	to Capt. Robt. Brooke & Mr. Thos. Pat-tle.	4,285	11 6	500 0 0
	1	to Mr. Thos. Woodward	to Ditto	4,084	4 6	476 10 0
	1	to Capt. Peter Gallopine	to Anna & Hanh. Gallopine or either of their Orders.	450	0 0	52 10 0
	1	to Mr. Bryan Scottney	to Capt. Peter Pigou . . .	303	0 0	35 7 0
	1	to Mr. P. M. Dacres acct. Mr. Saml. Howitt	to Messrs. Robt. Stratfield & John Spence .	1,775	5 9	207 2 6
	1	to Ditto	to Lieut Charles Blouier . . .	1,307	12 3	152 11 6
	1	to Mr. W. Bolts	to himself or Order . . .	600	0 0	70 0 0
	1	to Mr. Charles Child	to Miss Macdonall Alves . . .	214	4 9	25 0 0
	1	to Mr. Robert Gregory	to Edwd. Holden Cruttenden Esqr. . .	800	0 0	93 6 8
	1	to Ditto	to Miss Mary Waylem . . .	342	13 9	40 0 0
	1	to Mr. William Magee	to Capt. William Tryon . . .	391	8 0	45 13 6
	1	to Ditto	to Capt. C. Kearny . . .	1,299	15 6	151 13 3
	1	to Peter Amyatt Esqr.	to W. Fullerton Esqr. . . .	1,518	5 0	177 2 9
	1	to Mr. Richd. Morrison	to Mr. James Ramsay . . .	2,142	13 6	250 0 0
20				30,224	12 3	3,526 4 6
1		to Messrs. Warren Hastings & James Phillip Lyon Attorneys to John Zeph. Holwell Esqr.	to H. Bayley Esqr. . . .	422	9 0	49 6 0
21				30,647	5 3	3,575 10 6

We have also drawn upon your Honors Twenty Setts of Bills of Exchange payable at three Hundred & Sixty five Days after Sight & two Shillings & four Pence P. Current Rupee Interest to commence threcon after the Expiration of ninety Days at the rate of four P. Cent. P. Ann : for the remainder of the Time the Amount of the said Bills being Current Rupees four Laaks two Thousand one Hundred Sixty four & ten Annaes (Ct. Rs. 402164-10-0) or Pounds Sterling Forty six Thousand nine Hundred Nineteen four Shillings & two Pence (£Str 46919-4-2) as follows:

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable		Ct.	Rs.	£Str.
			365 Days				
10th February 1762	1	to Abram Gee Esqr.	.	.	.	7,129 10 9	831 15 11
	1	to George Louis Vernet Esqr.	.	.	to Chas. Chambers & John en Wolphert Van Hermert Esqr.	40,450 0 0	4,719 3 4
	1	to John Johnstone Esqr.	.	.	to Capt. Robt. Brooke & Mr. Thos. Pattie.	6,692 8 0	780 15 10
	1	to Mr. Thos. Amphlett	.	.	to Col. Robt. Clive or Order	1,35,851 10 6	15,949 7 3
	1	to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr.	.	.	to Samuel Waller Esqr.	8,560 0 0	998 13 4
	1	to Tyso Saul Hancock Esqr.	.	.	to J. Zh. Holwell & Charlton Palmer Esqr.	5,198 14 6	606 10 9
	1	to Mr. P. Downes on Acct. of Mr. George Dolbin.	.	.	to Mr. Luke Medwin	12,857 2 3	1,500 0 0
	1	to Ditto Atty. to C. W. Powney on acct. Estate of Mr. Andw. Wishart decd.	.	.	to Cornelius Goodwin Esqr.	12,398 0 0	1,446 8 8
1	to Peter Amyatt Esqr.	.	.	to William Watts Esqr.	4,297 12 6	501 8 2	
1	to Thos. Amphlett Esqr. Gwire Esqr.	on acct. W. M.	to Messrs. Gosling & Bennet	.	85,000 0 0	9,916 13 4	
1	to Ditto	to George Clive Esqr.	.	.	10,000 0 0	1,166 13 4	

1	to Messrs. An. Beaumont & H. Watts on acct. Hy. Verelst Esqr.	to Richd. Becher Esqr.	17,142 13 9	2,000 0 0
1	to Messrs. Robt. Gregory & John Wollaston	to Adam Dawson Esqr.	2,057 7 9	240 0 10
1	to Ditto	to Mr. Robert Goodere	6,110 11 9	712 18 5
1	to Ditto	to William Wogan Esqr.	5,984 3 0	698 3 1
1	to Mr. Hugh Watts on acct. of the Estate of Lady Ann Russell & Sir William Russell	to William Mackett Esqr.	2,109 10 0	246 2 5
1	to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart & Peter Amyatt Esqrs. on acct. of the Estate of Mr. Richd. Eyre	to Mrs. Martha Eyre	6,611 5 9	771 6 6
1	to Mr. Thomas Cooke	to the Revd. Mr. Chs. Manderville	2,683 15 6	313 2 7
1	to Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted	to Thomas Rous Esqr.	30,485 9 3	3,556 13 0
1	to Mr. Robt. Gregory acct. the Estate of Nathaniel Drake Decd.	to Miss Isabella Drake	543 2 9	63 7 5
			4,02,164 10 0	46,919 4 2

We are May it please your Honors
Your Honors most faithful & most
Obedient Humble Servants
Henry Van Sittart / Peter Amyatt /
Warren Hastings / John Johnstone /
William Hay.

Fort William
15th Feby. 1762
Original transmitted B Warren (Via Madrass)
Dupl. P Godolphin Trip. P Adm Watson

LETTER DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1762

Shipping news.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies,

May it please your Honors,

[1] Since writing to your Honors under yesterday's date, We learn by a Country Ship just arrived from Canton that She left that place the 20th December in Company with the Caernarvon, Augusta, Pitt, Triton, Prince Henry, Richmond, Norfolk & Neptune for Europe & Royal George for Madras, all of them having got safe through the Streights. The Worcester & Prince George, were the only Company's Ships remaining at Canton (who were to sail in January) besides two Dutch, one Danes & one Swede Ship. The Admiral Watson was well at Manilha.

[2] We have the pleasure to learn likewise that the Godolphin is safely imported into Ballasore Road. We shall lade on her the remainder of our Investment with all Expedition & Dispatch her to your Honors, which We hope We shall be able to do by the beginning of April.

[3] By a Letter from the President & Council at Fort St. George dated the 9th January by Pattamar which We rec'd this Morning We learn of the Norfolk's being arrived at that place the preceding Day. We therefore are hourly in expectation of her importing here.

We are,

Fort William
16th Febr'y 1762.
Origl. Transmitted P Warren ,
Duplicate P Godolphin
Tripl. P Adml. Watson

May it please your Honors,
Your Honors most faithful & most
Obedient Humble Servants,
Henry Van Sittart/Peter Amyatt/Warren.
Hastings/John Johnstone/William Hay.

LETTER DATED 15 MARCH 1762

Shipping details—bills of exchange.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors,

[1.] Our several Addresses of this Season have informed you of the safe Arrival of your Ships Hawke, Plassey, Earl of Holderness, Warren, Fox & Godolphin in this River & of the Norfolk at Madras which last Ship has since imported here & will be unloaded & paid off as fast as possible.

[2.] The Hawke, Plassey, Earl of Holderness & Warren have been fully laden & dispatched the three former directly for Europe, the latter to call at Fort St. George.

[3.] The Godolphin is taking in her Cargo & We judge will receive her Dispatches about the last of this Month.

[4.] We are advised by the Gentlemen at Madras of the Arrival of your Ships the Royal George from China & Admiral Watson from Manilha also that the Royal Captain imported at Bombay the 1st January having parted with the True Briton, Calcutta & Earl of Eligon which three Ships were spoke with by the Godolphin off Ceylon all well on board.

[5.] The Caernarvon, Augusta, Pitt, Triton, Prince Henry, Richmond, Norfolk & Neptune homeward bound from China passed safely thro' the Streights of Malacca the beginning of January. The Worcester & Prince George the only English Ships remaining at Canton were to be dispatched from thence in that Month.

[6.] We advised your Honors that the Fox was destined for a Voyage to Madras, Bencoolen & French Islands & that she left the River the 31st Janry. She imported at Madras the 15th February where she found Admiral Cornish with most part of the Squadron which after a long & sickly Cruize off Deigo Rez Seeing nothing of the expected Armament[sic] from Europe were obliged to return to the Coast of Cormandel. The President & Council at Fort St. George advise us they shall dispatch the Fox to Fort Marlbro' with the Artificers. Provisions & other Supplies she carried from hence for the use of the West Coast Settlements.

[7.] This waits upon you by a Danish Ship & may prove Satisfactory in case it should reach England before your own Ships.

Fort William
15th March 1762.

Postscript

We have this Day drawn upon your Honors fifteen Setts of Bills of Exchange payable at three Hundred & Sixty five Days after Sight & two Shillings and four pence p Current Rupee: Interest to commence thereon after the Expiration of ninety Days at the rate of four p. Cent: p. Ann: for the remainder of the Time the Amount of the said Bills being Current Rupees one Laack Eighty eight Thousand and nine Hundred fifteen & nine Annaes (Ct Rs 188915-9-0.) or Pounds Sterling Twenty two Thousand forty & three Shillings (£Str 22040-3-) as follows.

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct.	Rs.	£ Str.
365 Days						
15th March 1762	1	to Colonel Eyre Coote	to John Fras. Hesse Esqr & the Revd. Mr. Chas. Coote Dean of Kilfenora or either of their Orders.	34,285 11 6	4,000 0 0	
25th March	1	to Mr. Robert Gregory	to Edward Holden Cruttenden Esqr.	800 0 0	93 6 8	
	1	to Mr. John Taylor	to Mr. Herbert Pyfinch	8,400 0 0	980 0 0	
	1	to Mr. Edward Hardwicke	to Mr. Thomas Hardwicke	5,000 0 0	583 6 8	
	1	to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr on acct. of the Estate of Captain William Hutchinson Deceased.	to Sir Richd. Chase, Charles Raymond Esqr and Mr. Raby.	25,714 4 6	3,000 0 0	
	1	to Ditto	to Samuel Waller Esqr	4,783 9 3	558 1 9	
	1	to the Hon'ble James Phillip Lyon Esqr	to Robt. Haldam & Mungo Haldam Esqr	8,571 7 0	1,000 0 0	
	1	to Mr. Hugh Watts	to William Mackett Esqr	16,335 9 0	1,905 16 3	
	1	to Ditto	to Ditto	3,716 5 0	433 11 5	
	1	to Mr. Anselm Beaumont	to George Challoner Esqr	30,240 0 0	3,528 0 0	
	1	to the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr on acct. of Wm. And W. Price Esqr.	to Lawrence Sullivan Esqr	34,285 11 6	4,000 0 0	
	1	to Huzzorimaul Executor to the Estate of Omichund Dec'd.	to the Prest. or Treasurer of the Magdalan Hospital.	1,500 0 0	175 0 0	
	1	to Ditto	to the Prest. or Treasurer of the foundling Hospital.	1,500 0 0	175 0 0	
	1	to Mr. William Magee	to Thomas Bodolam Esqr	4,285 11 6	500 0 0	
	1	to Mr. Anselm Beaumont in full returns for one Chest of Coral marked DF No. 5 Imported P Ship Hawke 1761. B	to Messrs. Mosch and Raphael Franco	9,497 3 9	1,108 0 3	
						1,88,915 9 0 22,040 3 0

We advised you in our Address of the 15th February of our having sent five Laaks of Rupees to Madras to be forwarded to China & upon advice received from your Supra Cargo Mr. Blount We have determined to send five laaks more by different Conveyances which will offer in this Month.

We are

Fort William

15th March 1762.

Origl. transmitted

P Foreign Conveyance

Dupl. P Godolphin

Tripl. P Adml. Watson

May it please your Honors

your Honors most faithfull & most Obedient

Humble Servants,

Henry Van Sittart/Peter Amyatt/Warren

Hastings/John Johnstone/William Hay.

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LETTER DATED 8 APRIL 1762

Shipping news—timber from Chittagong—arrangements for revenue administration of 24-Parganas—contract for cultivation of Kharijuri pargana annulled—charges against Ramcharan, Vansittart's bania—growing jealousy between Mir Qasim and the Company—Hastings deputed to Mir Qasim—position of the President of Board—Ellis to continue at Patna—break-down of negotiations with the Dutch for cartel—Omichand's bequests for charities—bills of exchange.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors,

1. Since the Departure of the Warren which was dispatched from Ingellee the 28th February we have addressed you a short Letter by a Danish Ship under date the 15th March copy of which is sent in this Packet.

2. We now dispatch the Godolphin with a full Loading for England—Captain William Hutchinson late Commander of the said Ship died after his Arrival in the River, a few Days before a Dispute happened between him & his Chief Officer Mr. Collingwood Roddam and was carryed to such a length that Capt. Hutchinson had Suspended Mr. Roddam from his Station in the Ship—Mr. Roddam before the Death of Capt. Hutchinson had applied to the President for an enquiry to be made into his Conduct, which now became more necessary before We could determine whether to confirm Mr. Roddam in the Command of the Ship or not—accordingly we called upon Mr. Hardwicke the Supra Cargo of the said Ship on her Voyage to Juddah, and to Mr. Claud Lernoult the Surgeon who were both present during the whole Dispute between Captain Hutchinson & Mr. Roddam & having rec'd from each of those Gentlemen an Account of the Affair in writing We were fully convinced that Mr.

Roddam had been injured & used by Captain Hutchinson in a manner which We can attribute to nothing but his bad state of Health. Being therefore, satisfied that Mr. Roddam was a fit Person to succeed to the Command of the Ship We accordingly confirmed him and caused the whole Proceedings to be entered on the face of our Consultations of the 25th February &c.

3. Mr. Hardwicke on behalf of the Freighters of the Godolphin to Judda, laid before the Board the Copy of a Protest which he delivered to Capt. Hutchinson at Bombay for not having the said Ship ready to receive the freighters, Cargo & for detaining her at that Place to go into Dock—Mr. Hardwick represented that this Detention had occasioned a very considerable Difference in her passage back to Bengal and desired that a proportionable Deduction might be made from the Amount of the Freight due from the Freighters to the Company—hereupon We applied to Captain Roddam for the reasons why the said Ship was not ready to receive her Cargo requiring at the same Time his Opinion what difference her Detention at Bombay had occasioned in her return to Bengal—He informed us in answer that Captain Hutchinson thought it necessary to see the Ship's bottom as she had struck upon Rocks in her Way up to Judda & likewise upon the Sunkin Rock going into Bortibay harbor & that if she had gone up to Surat to take in the freighters Goods he judged she might have arrived here the latter end of December or beginning of Janry—From hence and from the Time of Arrival of two Country Ships which left Bombay about the Time the Godolphin might have sailed also had she not been detained to go into Dock, We were of Opinion that the Owners ought to be answerable for such loss of Time, but as that is a matter which cannot be determined till the Ships Arrival in England and as it is but reasonable the Freighters should pay the Company the full Freight for the Time the Ship was employed on her Judda Voyage in case that contrary to our Opinion the Owners should receive from the Company the full Demurrage We consented therefore to make such a Deduction as We esteemed reasonable from the Freight upon condition only that the Freighters should give a Bond to the Company to make good the Freight for the Time so allowed in case a Deduction for the same Space of Time should not be allowed the Company in the Demurrage that will be due to the Owners of the said Ship. The following is the Statement of the said Account of Freight.

Ship Godolphin let at Outcry for ten Months from

1st Decr. 1760 to 1st Octr. 1761, for	Ct. Rs. 30001 0 0
Prorato from the 1st Octr 1761 to 20th Febry. 1762	
when she returned to Bengal River being 4 Mths.	
20 days	14000 0 0
	44001 0 0

But as it is judged she might have arrived by the 20th December. had she not been detained at Bombay to go into Dock, We think the Owners should

be answerable for the loss of two¹/₂ Months & have accordingly allowed the Freighters conditionally as before mentioned Pro Rato for two Months.

Ct. Rs. 6000 0 0

and have receivedCt. Rs. 3800 0 0 which We hope will meet your Honors Approbation.

4. Captain Hutchinson having occasion for Money for his Ship's Expences at Bombay took up from the President and Council there the Sum of twelve Thousand Bombay Rupees on Charter party Terms his Bond for which was forwarded to us by the Ship & We transmitt the same in the Packet.

5. When the Master Attendant's Report of the dispatch of the Warren was returned to us We observed Captain Glover had protested upon the Bill of Lading against short Weight and short Delivery in general for reasons which by the Export Warehouse Keeper's Letter on the subject in Consultation the 11th March We think quite groundless & We find that since the late Alterations in the Charter Parties in favour of the Owners it is become a general Practice for every Captain to make such a Protest whether there be sufficient reason or not We can even assure you upon our own Knowledge it is a part of the Owners Instructions to all their Commanders.

6. Some Goods yet remaining in our Warehouse and other small Parcells being expected from the Subordinates & Aurungs on account of the last Year's ballances We judge We shall be able to give a loading to your Ship Admiral Watson or Royal George in the Month of August and have accordingly wrote to the President and Council at Fort St. George to request they will send down either of them which may be unemployed so as to arrive with us the beginning of July.

7. In our Letter by the Danish Ship We advised you of the Arrival of the Norfolk but as on account of the Lateness of the Season the Pilots thought it not prudent to bring her up higher than Kedgerree We meet with great delay & difficulty in unloading her but We judge she will be clear about the 15 of the Month & We shall make up the Account of Freight in the manner your Honors direct.

8. And as We are very much in want of Timbers for carrying on the buildings in the new Fort and Captain Mc. Conohie offering to let us the whole Ship in her Ballast for a trip to Chittagong at her present rate of Demurage We thought it a good Opportunity of securing of Conveyance for the Timbers which have been cut at that place and which will be sufficient to give her a full Loading—We think she cannot be more than four Months in performing this Service at which rate the usual Freight of the Timbers she is computed to bring would amount to near about the same Sum as her Demurage for that Term—The Chief and Council at Chittagong have tried to float the Timbers to Calcutta by the Rivers, but have found it impossible & to bring them by Boat would be as expensive as the Freight of Shipping besides the risk of losing many & the uncertainty of their arriving in Time.

9. The Leases of the Calcutta Pergunnahs expiring the first of next Month excepting that of Magurah the Committee of new Lands have met very frequently to consider of the proper Method of disposing of them to the Company's best Advantage with a View at the same Time to their further Improvement— Plans are prepared for dividing each Pergunnah into smaller Parcells and We are agreed that the Leases should be for a longer Term to make it worth the Farmers while to be at some Expence for improving the Ground, but on the other hand We wish to have a more perfect knowledge of the real Produce of the Lands that is what the Labourers reap from the Grounds as well as what they pay to the Farmers, for We do not find that the Debundee or Rentroll collected by Mr. Frankland is at all to be depended on, nor that the Farmers have been guided by that in collecting the Rents from the Inhabitants, altho' by the Term of the Leases it should have been so—We wish also to have an exact Measurement of the whole & indeed we think both those Informations very necessary before We left them on a long Lease—We, are inclined therefore to make a tryal to acquire this Knowledge by keeping the Lands for one Year in the Company's Hands & only to lett out the Salt Pans which We have reason to think will become a very considerable separate Article of your Revenues Mr. Cameron has made a very compleat Survey & Plan of the outlines of the whole from Sagur round the eastern Limit till he joined the River again at Bankabuzar which is the Northern Extent of your Possessions—He will proceed again with all Expedition to make an inside Survey & Measurement of each Pergunnah, which will give us a compleat Knowledge of the number of Acres in the whole & in each Pergunnah—In the mean Time We propose that the several Members of the Committee of new Lands shall have the Care & Management of the several Pergunnahs in the Manner they themselves divided them as in their Proceedings of 16th Sept. 1761 that they shall register the number of Parishes in each Pergunnah, the number of Villages in each Parish, & the number & Names of the Inhabitants Land Holders in each Village, with the quantity of Ground held by each, the Nature and Produce of it & the yearly Rent it has heretofore been rated at—& that for the present they shall collect the same Rents as were Collected by the Farmer's untill We can form a Judgement from the Registers and Measurement how far they may be encreased. It would certainly be a great Advantage to the Company if We had a number of Covenanted Servants sufficient to enable us to employ some under each Gentleman of the Committee to reside in the Pergunnahs—For want of these a great number of Country Servants must be employed as Aumins, Collectors, &c. and much of the detail of the Business pass thro' them but your Honors may be assured that all possible Attention shall be Employed to prevent their keeping us in Ignorance of a Matter which so much concerns the Company's Interest that we should get a true State of.

10. We did not observe till lately that the Lease of Magurah extends a Year beyond the rest—About a Year after the Farms were let at Outcry the Measurement of Magurah & Cossipoor being finished & the old Farmers

not agreeing to pay the encrease they were put up again at the end of June 1760 & Cossipoor lett for two Years which brings it equal with the other Leases but Magurah for three for what reason is not mentioned We shall however cause to be taken a like register of the number of Parishes, Villages & Tenants in that Purgunnah.

11. The Committee of new Lands having given repeated Notice to the Proprietors of Char[ity] Grounds in the Company's Lands to produce their Titles to the Collectors of the respective Purgunnahs within a limited Time, which Time being long since elapsed & no such Titles produced it is our Intentions [*sic*] to take all such Lands under Sequestration and afterwards to restore such as may be claimed upon satisfactory Titles—We intend also to take all those Lands which heretofore have been given to the Servants of the Purgunnahs instead of wages as We believe it has been an opening for Abuses and such Servants as are necessary We shall pay in ready Money.

12. Having been informed that the Company had a right to a certain No. of Salt Pans in some of the Purgunnahs exclusive of the Rents We caused them to be put up at Outcry and they sold for Ct. Rs. 38 each for this Year, the exact No. is not yet ascertained but will be about two hundred, This matter is more fully explained in the Proceedings of the Committee of New Lands of the 28th October & 25th Novr. last.

13. In our Address of the 21st Janry. We mentioned that we had accepted Proposals from Mr. Gregory & other Gentlemen concerned with him for clearing & cultivating the Cory Jury Lands & desired that authentic Writings might be drawn in England to secure to the Company & Undertakers the performance of the Condition agreed on—The Company's Chokey or Custom House at Rangafullah which is situated within the same Lands being found inconvenient to the Undertakers they proposed to the Committee of New Lands that they would be answerable to the Company for the Amount of the Duties before collected there on the medium of three Years on condition that the said Chokey should be taken off—this Proposal the Committee refused [referred] to the Board in Cons. 1st March together with a List of the said Collections which appeared for the most part to arise from the Taxes levied upon the cutting of Wood, making Salt & other Articles of the produce of the Cory Jury Lands hereupon a question arose whether the Company according to the Conditions granted to the Undertakers as entered after Consultation of the 4th January could have a right to extend those Taxes to such encreases in the Produce of the said Country as might be acquired by the Expence and Industry of the Undertakers. Messrs. Johnstone & Hay were of opinion that the Company had that right & Mr. Hay added further that it did not appear to him by the said Articles that the Company had made over the right of the Wood to the Undertakers but that such right did & ought to remain with the Company—The President and Messrs. Amyatt & Hastings differed in Opinion from Messrs. Johnstone & Hay in both these Points, but as those three Gentlemen had subscribed to Mr. Gregory's Proposals in order to encourage the Undertaking they would not have the Question decided by their Opinion,

but having obtained the Consent of Mr. Gregory & the other Gentlemen concerned, they referred it to the Determination of Messrs. Johnstone & Hay either to confirm the lease according to their (the Contractors) Understanding of the Conditions that is That the right of the Wood should be rested in them & they be subject to no addition of Taxes, or else to annul the Contract—Those Gentlemen being of Opinion it was not for the Company's Interest to grant a Lease upon those Terms but rather that We should wait to know from your Honors what Condition you shall think proper to fix for the Encouragement of such an undertaking—the Contract therefore stood annulled. Our Proceedings upon this affair appear at length upon the face of our Consultations of the 1st and 4th March to which We beg leave to refer you & request your full directions upon this Subject that We may endeavor in conformity thereto to encourage the Cultivation of this large & uninhabited tract of Country—By Captain Cameron's Report of such general Observations as he has had an Opportunity of making during his Survey which is entered after our Consultation of the 8th Instant, it appears that many parts thereof are very capable of being inhabited and improved.

14. On the 27 April last We rec'd from Mr. Johnstone then at Jelasore a packet of Letters intercepted by one of his Chokies which contained some Letters under the Seal of Ramchurn, formerly the Banian of Coll. Clive, then of Coll. Caillaud & now of Mr. Van Sittart—These Letters were addressed to Cumdar Cawn the chief of the rebellious Zemindars in the Patna Province—in the same packet were Letters under the Seal of Cumdar Cawn to Ram Churn in answer to forementioned & some Letters to other Persons referring to the same—Some Circumstances appeared upon the first Enquiry which made us suspect they were forged. We used our utmost Endeavours to come to a certainty by either discovering the Authors of the Invention or the reality of the Correspondence but could not succeed so fully as We could wish Time perhaps may bring it to light, in the mean while We have sent you our Proceedings in this Enquiry in a separate book of Consultations which conclude with the opinions of the different Members upon the whole—It may not be improper in this place to observe to your Honors that the manner of doing Business in this Country seems to purposely [.....] for the Letters are never signed and are put under a Cover which is secured only with pa[ste?] and sealed with a Seal which any Engraver can counterfeit—Thus on the one hand a guilty Man has it in his Power to deny Letters really his own, and on the other, an innocent Man is subject to be accused [of] having wrote Letters which he never saw. In such Cases it is only from Circumstances & the Views & Interests of the Person accused that a Judgement can be formed.

15. The next Day, the 28 of April another Charge was exhibited against Ramchurn of frauds said to be committed by him in the first payment of Money from Nabob Jaffer Ali Cawn in consequence of the Treaty made with him as well as of several Over charges in some Accounts of Camp Expenses—We [have] been very particular in our Enquiry in [.....] to a final Determination chiefly on account of three books which the

Informer said contained the particulars and proofs of the Fraud & which Ramchurn declares were never given back to him after the enquiry which was made into this affair by Messrs. Watts, Walsh & Scrafton by Colonel Clive's Order—Certain it is Coll. Clive kept Ramchurn some Months in disgrace upon the same Information of these frauds that he seized all his Books and Papers & had them brought to his House that the three Books in question were among them that He entrusted the Examination to the Gentlemen before mentioned & upon a report of Mr. Scrafton's of which a Copy as given us by Ramchurn is entered in our Proceedings, released Ramchurn, employed him again in his Service & at his Departure for Europe gave him a Certificate of his Good Behaviour—It is also well known that the Bags & Bundles containing his Books & Papers were delivered back to him, but We cannot be certain whether the three particular Books wanted were or were not detained—As no record is to be found of the Proceedings of the former Enquiry & particularly no mention of what discoveries were made from those Books—We think that his former Acquitt[al] by Colonel Clive is not sufficient to free him from a further Prosecution, neither on the other hand are the Proofs brought by the Informant in support of his Charge sufficient to prove the reality of the Frauds, our Opinion of which must chiefly depend on the Truth or Falsity of what Ramchurn alledges as to the three Books & in the particulars contained in the said Books as to the Articles in question—these Informations your Honors may obtain from those Gentlemen in England. We transmit you in our Packet our whole Proceedings in this enquiry in another separate Consultation Book at the conclusion hereof We have summed up the most material parts of the Evidence with such other Circumstances as have come to our Knowledge for and against the Charge from which & your Enquiries from the Gentlemen beforementioned you will be able to determine whether there is sufficient Reason to prosecute Ramchurn upon this charge or any part of it & to direct us in what form to do it. In the mean time we have obliged Ramchurn to give Security for his Appearance to answer such Suit as you may direct.

16. The President thinks necessary to assure your Honors on this occasion that if he had known Ramchurn had been suspected of such Frauds & that the former Enquiry made thereupon could have been liable to any Appearance of insufficiency he certainly would not have entertained him in his Service but he had not even a private Information of any such Suspicion untill a very few days before the Charge was laid before the Board. He had been confined the day before upon the receipt of the intercepted Letters beforementd. & was kept so till it appeared there were no sufficient Proofs against him till the Informer seemed to be taking the Opportunity of his Disgrace to procure false Witnesses against him. When things appeared in this Train the President thought the Accused ought, in Justice, to have equal Liberty with the Accuser & the same reason has prevented his dismissing him since together with the Consideration that if he was to change him for another it would be hard to find one free from Suspicions—It is his care to trust as little as possible any of his Servants & his having luckily a sufficient

Knowledge of the Persian [lan] guage to read the Letters he receives from the Country & see that those written are agreeable to his Intentions, leaves them little Opportunity of intering [sic].

17. The Nabob continues still in the Bahar Province and We have reason to suspect that some busy Persons have been endeavouring to form out Jealousies between him & us & to fill him with Apprehensions that We are not well inclined towards him, our desire to preserve the tranquility of the Country & to discover the Authors of this Jealousy have induced us to depute Mr. Hastings on a Visit to the Nabob to make him those Assurances on our part, to advise him to be careful whose Reports he trusts to and to punish with Severity any of the People about him whom he finds to be endeavouring to create a Misunderstanding between us—Instructions for this purpose being prepared Mr. Amyatt proposed another Clause should be added directing Mr. Hastings to demand of the Nabob to pay to the Company the Sum of twenty Laaks of Rupees which he offered at the time the Treaty was made with him to present to the Gentlemen of the Select Committee then in Calcutta—Messrs. Carnac, Johnstone & Hay joined with Mr. Amyatt in this Clause but the President objected to it & refused to join in it because himself & the other Gentlemen of the Select Committee did absolutely reject this Offer as he the President has often since mentioned & particularly in Consultation 12 January 1761 he gave it therefore as his Opinion that neither the Company, nor He, nor any other Person have any just Claim upon the Nabob upon account of the said Offer—The Reasons of the several Members of the Board in support of their respective Opinions are entered on the Minutes of the Consultations of the 22d Ulto.

18. The President referring to the 96th Paragraph of your Commands of the 1st April 1760 where you are pleased to direct that all Applications to or disputes with, the Country Powers should pass thro' his Authority alone observed to the Board on this occasion that he thought his opinion in such a Case ought to have more Weight than the common Voice of a Member of the Board this however was not admitted & We are to request your directions on this Subject—Also that you will explain to us more particularly on what occasion it is your meaning that the Colonel & Major should be Members of the Board as this also was a matter of Debate in Consultation the 22 Ulto.

19. We have already advised your Honors of our having consigned five Laaks of Rupees to Madras to be forwarded to China & of our Resolution to forward five Laaks more upon a Letter which the President received from Mr. Blount, your Chief Supra Cargoe—three Laaks accordingly are Shipped on the Muxadavad, one on the Prince Edward and one on the Fort St. George Country Ships bound to the Coast; We have also wrote to the President & Council at Bombay that if they are in want of a Supply of Money We shall be able to answer their Bills as far as five Laaks beyond which if they draw We have desired it may be left to our Option to discharge those in ready Money or by Bond—We have also made very considerable Advances to all our

Subordinates as well as our Calcutta Aurungs, from whence we Flatter ourselves with the hopes of a good Investment.

20. In the Warren's Packet We transmitted to your Honors an Account Receipt of Revenue from the Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong Provinces to the 31st January last, for your further Information. We now send a general Calculate of the Receipts & Dishursements under this Presidency from the Time the grant of those Provinces took place to the 31 Ultimo—As all the Accounts of which it is made up are not compleat, the Calculate therefore cannot be perfectly exact but it will serve to give you a general View of the disposition of the large Sums which have come into our Hands, & make up in some measure for the want of your general Books, which We may Venture to promise you will be brought up compleat to be forwarded to you next Season.

21. Upon the receipt of your Commands of the 6th May 1761 P. Norfolk We made known to Mr. Mc. Gwire your orders in his favour, who accordingly addressed a Letter to your Honors expressing his Concern for the occasion he had given you to be displeased with him which Letter is copied after our Consultation of the 11th Ultimo & is transmitted to you in this Packet—We have accordingly directed him to repair to Calcutta to take his Seat at the Board—Mr. Sumner had taken his passage for Europe before the Receipt of your Orders.

22. Mr. McGwire at the same time applied to be restored to the Chiefship of Patna but as Mr. Ellis had been at that Station for some Months & was his Senior in the Service We did not think it reasonable to comply with this Request.

23. In our Address of the 21 January We mentioned that upon the death of Mr. Cape We had requested the Gentlemen at Fort St. George to acquaint Mr. More that We would employ him to assist in the Duties of the Chapla[i]ncy till your pleasure shall be known, before our Letter arrived at Madras Mr. More had taken his Passage for Fort Marlbro' and Mr. William Hirst who came out Chaplain with Admiral Cornish making us an offer of his Services We have appointed him to fill the Vacant Chaplaincy till your pleasure is known, & as he is a Gentleman of very good Character & Abilities & a person generally esteemed for a Behavior very becoming his Profession, We beg leave to recommend him to your Honors to be confirmed.

24. Mr. William Plenderleath one of our Head Surgeons was unfortunately drowned in crossing the River whereupon We have appointed Mr. Clement Crooke to be one of the Surgeons of the Presidency & Mr. John Davidson who has served long Time as a Surgeon in our Army, to succeed Mr. Crooke at Chittagong—No other Casualties have happened since our general Advices under date the 12 November last.

25. The Resignation of Major Yorke occasioning a Vacancy in the Command of a Company Captain Lieutenant John Nollkins was appointed Captain, and Lieutt. John Matthews was promoted to the like Rank at the

same time in order to compleat the twelve Companies of Military & seven Battalions of Seapoys.

26. In Consequence of these Promotions the following were likewise made in the Subalterns: Lieutt. Francis Cozens to be Captain Lieutenant.

Ensigns Benjamin Wilding	}	to be Lieutenants
James Jones		
Richard Hollond		
Messrs. Nicholls	}	to be Ensigns
Edward Ferrar		
Thomas Bonaker		

Likewise Qr. Master Benjamin Spooner to be Cornet of the Troop Commanded by Captain Spellman & Mr. George Eyres to be Quarter Master in his Room, And Mr. Henry Huygens to be a Practitioner Engineer to rank as Ensign.

27. The President & Council at Fort St. George judging the Troop of light Horse Commanded by Captain Freake & intended for their Settlement might be of particular Service here, have accordingly resolved to send them down—Lieutenant Gordon with the Detachment embarked on the Norfolk arrived here with that Ship, but as yet We have no news of the Chesterfield on board of which is Capt. Freake with the rest of the Company.

28. In place of the Company of One Hundred French Volunteers intended us by the unfortunate Ship Fatty Salam, We sent Mr. S. Martin, one of the Officers of that Company, who escaped, to enlist a like Number from the Prisoners on the Coast, which he speedily effected & he brought them down on the Ship Norfolk.

29. The brass field Pieces sent for the Service of this Settlement on the Ships of last Season prove[d] extreamly Faulty as you will observe by the Commissary of Artillery's Report entered after our Consultation of the 29 Ultimo & whereof a Copy is transmitted in this Packet for your more perfect Information We have returned one of the Guns in this Ship, which you will observe with only a few days firing in exercise where the Gun has always sufficient Time to cool was so prodigiously Run at the Vent as to be absolutely unfit for Service.

30. We mentioned in our general Address of the 12 November that the Cuttings of Sallow, Willow & Alder sent P Plassey had been washed overboard that the Seeds had been set in many different Soils but none of them had come up—We have now to add that the Cuttings by the other Ships all died in the Passage & that the Seeds have been again tried without Success.

31. We send in the Packet an Indent for heavy Artillery for the use of the Fort made out after the Form directed in the 10th paragraph of your Commands of the 6th May & We request it may be complied with as soon as possible.

32. Several Men having deserted from our Detachment at Patna & taken Protection in the Dutch Factory We directed our Chief to demand them & in case of refusal to take them out as we cannot think that a Dutch

Factory situated in the middle of a Moors Town can have a just Right to give Protection to Deserters—this occasioned a Deputation from the Council at Chincurah to complain of this Proceeding and propose a Cartel for the mutual Delivering up of Deserters but as they insisted on a Clause excepting Dutchmen who should desert to them and vice versa Englishmen who should desert to us from being delivered up, we could not agree to the Cartel for as We have a great Number of Dutchmen in our Service, & they few or no Englishmen in theirs, the advantage would have been all on their Side—As the style in which the Directore & Council at Chincurah have wrote on this occasion may serve to shew their good Inclinations towards us if they had the Power we have transmitted in the Packet one of their original Letters & a Copy of our Answer the Translation as made by Mr. Kiernander one of the Missionaries is entered in our Book of Inland Letters.

33. We are some Time at a loss on such occasions for want of Books containing the Treaties between the European Nations relative to the right each may claim. We request your Honors will be pleased to send us such as you think will be most useful, as well as some of the most approved Law Books and some Bibles and prayer Books for the Church, especially one of each of a large Size for the Desk.

34. At the last Quarter Sessions no less than nine Persons received Sentence of Death for different Felonies, six have been executed the other three We request of your Honors to recommend to his Majesty for Pardon, one a Slave Girl named Cally about thirteen Years old who privately stole some Jewells out of her Master's House in Company with another aged above twenty who has been executed & two Men named Chumero & Sabdee who were convicted of an Assault & Robbery in the Street in Company with a Third who being esteemed most guilty has been executed—The last mentioned were particularly recommended to the Mercy of the Court by the Petty Jury & if it be possible it is much to be wished that a discretional Power could be lodged in the Judges of the Sessions to grant Pardon in such Cases, or at least to mitigate the Rigor of their Confinement, for at present the Sheriff is obliged by his Office to keep the poor Wretches in the condemned Hole until an Answer comes from England.

35. The late Omichaund having left a considerable part of his Fortune to be laid out in Charities in all parts of the World, his Executor, Huzzooramul has requested us to remit by this Conveyance the Sum of fifteen hundred Current Rupees or Pounds Sterling one hundred seventy five to the Governors of the Magdalen House & the like Sum to the Governors, of the Foundling Hospital for the uses of those Charities respectively & further that We would receive into your Cash the Sum of Thirty seven Thousand five Hundred Current Rupees there to remain for ever & the Interest to be remitted annually to the beforementioned Charities.

36. For want of regular Reports from the Pilots of Vessels importing and exporting We have not been able to form the Ship Book you require, but in order that the same may be always kept up in future as well as that We may

be enabled to judge of the Qualifications of the several Pilots in your Service We formed some regulations in Consultation of the 1st Inst. for the observance of the Master Attendant & which We thought the more necessary as more frequent Accidents have happened to Ships in the River during the course of last Year than ever was known before & this leads us to repeat the request made to you in the 137th Paragraph of our last general Address for young Men of good Recommendations to be sent out to be brought up to the River Service.

37. As much of the Purnea Petre as could be refined in time is loaded in this Ship invoiced at six Rupees p Maund the Waste and Expense of refining amounting exactly to one Rupee.

38. We have enclosed in the Packet a list of all the Surgeons and Assistants in your Service on your Establishment, those which are entertained as Camp surgeons & marked to in the list have not hitherto been esteemed as entitled to succeed to be head Surgeons at the Presidency, but as by their experience in the Nature of the Disorders in this Country they must be supposed more capable of applying the proper remedies than any new Men We beg leave to recommend to your Honors to appoint them to succeed in such Order as you shall think proper.

39. A large quantity of Sea Coal being required for the different Service of the Marine & New Fort we request you will direct the Storekeepers Indent for that Article to be fully complied with.

40. Your Snow Leopard ever since her Dispatch from hence in Decr. 1760 has been employed under the direction of the President & Council at Madras, but We daily expect her to return here.

41. The amount of Bills drawn on your Honors by this Ship as advised particularly in the Postscript is CRs. 166912-10-9

by the Danish Ship	. . . . .	34285-11-6
by the Warren	. . . . .	432811-15-3
by the Holdernesse	. . . . .	666628- 2-6
by the Plassey	. . . . .	614610 -2-9
and by the Hawke	. . . . .	996055-10-0
Total by the ships of this Season	. . . . .	2908304-4-9

which is a larger Amount than usual, but as your honors have not limited our Drafts to any particular Sum We thought it improper to refuse any Money that was tendered to use for Bills & as we have dispatched five ships with full Cargoes We hope it will prove no Inconvenience it has enabled us the better to answer the Drafts of the other Presidencies & to send a Supply of Treasure to Canton But if in future your Honors would not have us go beyond a yearly Sum you will please to give us your Directions accordingly.

42. We have sent you on this Ship at the request of Colonel Coote, Lieutenant Manning disordered in his Senses, and five Invalid Soldiers of His Majesty's 84th Regt: We have likewise sent twenty French Gentlemen on

parole & six non-Commissioned not on parole of all which proper Lists are enclosed and the Captain has been paid as usual for their Passage & Provisions.

43. We have laden & consigned to your Honors on this Ship sundry Goods and Merchandize amounting to Current Rupees six Hundred & twenty one Thousand three Hundred as p Invoice & bill of Lading enclosed.

44. We have likewise laden sundry Stores for the use of the Island of St. Helena amounting to Current Rupees one Thousand seven Hundred twenty seven, twelve Annas, nine pice, as p. Invoice & bill of Lading enclosed to them.

Port William
8th April 1752.

Postscript

45. We have drawn upon your Honors by this Ship, the Godolphin, eleven Setts of bills of Exchange payable at two Shillings & four pence p. Curr. Rupee & ninety days after Sight amounting to Curr. Rupees fifteen Thousand two Hundred eighty two, thirteen Annas and three pice (Ct. Rs. 15282-13-3) or Pounds Sterling one Thousand seven Hundred eighty three) (£st. 1783) as follows :

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Curr. Rupee.	£'Str.
25th March 1782	1	To Mr. Hugh Watts on acct. Miss Molly Plen-derleith	To Thomas Watts Esqr	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	To Mr. Robert Browne	To Mr. Thomas French	111 7 8	13 0 0
	1	To Mr. Robt. Gregory acct. Mr. David Phillips	To Mr. James White	2142 13 6	250 0 0
	1	To Mr. John Hewitt	To Mrs. Elizabeth Howitt	642 13 6	75 0 0
	1	To the Hon'ble James Phillip Lyon Esqr.	To Robt. & Mungo Haldane Esqrs or either of their Ords.	4285 11 6	500 0 0
	1	To Mr. John Reed	Ditto	4285 11 6	500 0 0
	1	To Mr. Henry Hutchinson	To Charles Manningham Esqr	214 4 6	25 0 0
	1	To Francis Russell	To Mr. William Russell	171 7 8	20 0 0
	1	To Mr. Willm Bolts acct. Capt. Thomas Fenwick.	To Francis and John Dervall	428 9 0	50 0 0
	1	To Mr. Hugh Baillie	To Mr. Archibald Garner or Order	857 2 3	100 0 0
	1	To Mr. William Magee	To Mr. Andrew Setow or Order	1285 11 3	150 0 0
	11			15282 13 3	1783 0 0

46. We have also drawn upon your Honors fifteen Setts of Bills of Exchange payable at two Shillings and four pence p. Curr. Rupee & three Hundred & Sixty five Days after Sight Interest to commence thereon after the expiration of ninety Days at the rate of four p. Cent p. Annum for the remainder of the Time, the Amount of the said Bills (including the Sett) granted Col. Coote by the Danish Ship being Curr. Rupees one Hundred eighty eight Thousand, nine Hundred fifteen, nine Annas (Ct. Rs. 188915-9-0.) or Pounds Sterling Twenty two Thousand, forty and three Shillings (£st. 22040-3-0-) as follows :

Dates	Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Curr. Rupees.	£ Str.
March 25th 1762	1	To Colonel Eyre Coote	To John Fras. Hesse Esqr. and the Revd. Mr. Chas. Coote Dean of Kilfenora or either of their Ords.	34285 11 6	400 0 0
..	1	To Mr. Robert Gregory	To Edward Holden Cruttenden Esqr.	800 0 0	93 6 8
	1	To Mr. John Taylor	To Mr. Herbert Pyefinch	8400 0 0	980 0 0
	1	To Mr. Edward Hardwicke	To Mr. Thomas Hardwicke	5000 0 0	583 6 8
	1	To the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr. on acct. of the Estate of Capt. William Hutchinson Deceased.	To Sir Richd. Chase, Charles Raymond Esqr. Mr. Raby	25714 4 6	3000 0 0
	1	To Ditto.	To Samuel Waller Esqr.	4783 9 3	558 1 9
	1	To the Hon'ble James Phillip Lyon Esqr.	To Robert & Mengo Haldane Esqrs.	8571 7 0	1000 0 0
	1	To Mr. Hugh Watts	To William Mackett Esqr.	16335 9 0	1905 16 3
	1	To Ditto.	To Ditto.	3716 5 0	433 11 5

8 APRIL 1762

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1	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont	.	.	.	To George Challoner Esqr.	.	.	.	30240	0	0	3528	0	0	48
1	To the Hon'ble Henry Van Sittart Esqr on acct. of Willm. Andrew Price Esqr.	.	.	.	To Lawrence Sullivan Esqr.	.	.	.	34285	11	6	4000	0	0	28
1	To Huzzarimaul Executor to the Estate of Omichund decd.	.	.	.	To the President or Treasurer of the Magdalan Hospital.	.	.	.	1500	0	0	175	0	0	
1	To Ditto.	.	.	.	To the President or Treasurer of the Foundling Hospital	.	.	.	1500	0	0	175	0	0	
1	To Mr. William Magee	.	.	.	To Thomas Boddam Esqr	.	.	.	4285	11	6	500	0	0	
1	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont in full returns for one Chest of Coral Marked DE B No 5 Imported p Ship Hawke 1761.	.	.	.	To Messrs Moses & Raphael Franco	.	.	.	9497	3	9	1108	0	3	
										188,915	9	0	22040	3	0

15

LETTER TO COURT

We are

May it please your Honors
 Your Honors most faithfull & most
 Obedient Humble Servants
 Henry Vansittart/Peter Amyatt/John Carnac/
 Warren Hastings/John Johnstone/
 William Hay.

Fort William
 8th April 1762.
 Original transmitted P. Godolphin
 Dup. P. Adm. Watson
 Trip. P. Tilbury

LETTER DATED 8 APRIL 1762

Khwajah Petrus' activities suspected.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it Please Your Honors—

[1.] This is Purposely to accompany our proceedings in an enquiry concerning a correspondence Said to have been carried on by Coja Petruse an inhabitant of this Place, to the Company's great detriment, and the Danger of Disturbing the Tranquility of the Country; we cannot yet determine whether the said Charge is well grounded or not, but shall use our utmost endeavours either to procure proofs of the reality of the correspondence, or of the forgery should it be one.

[2.] And we take this Opportunity of requesting your Honors to resolve us what measures we may lawfully take in cases of this nature, and particularly what proofs are Sufficient to authorize us to Seize the Papers of the accused Person.

We are may it Please your Honors

Your Honors most Faithfull and most Obedient
Humble Servants

Fort William
8th of April 1762

Henry Vansittart / Peter Amyatt/ John Carnac/
Warren Hastings / John Johnstone / William Hay

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LETTER DATED 26 APRIL 1762

Shipping news.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the united Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

May it please Your Honors

[1.] Our Address by the Godolphin was dated the 8th Instant, but before the Packet was closed & the Master Attendant sent down with her Dispatches We were informed that a leak had been discovered below the Bends

of the Ship whereupon We thought it necessary to give fresh Orders to the Master Attendant at the same time he carried down her Dispatches & Packets to make a carefull Survey of her Condition & in case he found her not fit to proceed the Voyage to deliver the Captain a Protest & return with her Packets.

[2.] This day We received the Master Attendant's Report setting forth the bad Condition of the Ship in consequence of which he had delivered the Commander the Protest as directed & returned with the Packets to Town.

[3.] We received likewise a Letter from Captain Roddam informing us the Ship could not safely proceed her Voyage until she had had some repair which could not be given her at Kedgerree and therefore requested permission to bring her up to Town.

[4.] Taking these Circumstances into consideration We directed the Export Warehouse keeper to reland her Cargo and resolved to turn the Ship out of the Company's Service untill her repairs are Compleated & she be again tendered to us and found upon survey to be in fit Condition to receive the Company's Cargo to proceed to Europe.

[5.] Some days before We received a Letter from Captain Roddam representing the lateness of the Season for proceeding to Europe, the risk and difficulty of getting out of the River, & for these reasons protesting against the Company for all Losses & Damages, In answer to which We wrote him that the cause of the lateness of his Ship's Dispatch for England was the lateness of her return from her Judda Voyage which delay having been entirely occasioned by the faults & bad Condition of the Ship which made Captain Hutchinson think it necessary to carry her into the Dock at Bombay that, therefore We esteemed him (the Commander) & the part Owners of the said Ship to be answerable for all bad Consequences and so We protested in our turn—Copies of all the Letters & Protests before referred to are now enclosed for your Honors information from No. 1 to No. 10.

[6.] If the Godolphin can get a sufficient repair at this place so as to be found upon a carefull Survey to befit to proceed to Europe We shall take her again into the Company's Service & load her and dispatch her as soon as possible after she is tendered.

[7.] But should the Godolphin upon further Examination be found so faulty as not to be capable of being repaired here We shall want (to take on board the Cargo intended for her). One Ship

for the remains of our last years Investment as mentioned in our Address of the 8th Instant to be dispatched in the month of August	}	One small Ship intended to be the Admiral Watson or Royal George

and if nothing happens to disappoint the hopes we now have of a good Investment this Season We shall be able to give a loading to.	}	five rich Ships or six usual Ships

[8.] We now write on this Subject to the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay requesting that as soon as they are informed of the number of Ships taken up to come to India this Season they may take such Measures as may be necessary for providing us with sufficient Tonnage for our Goods.

We are

Fort William
26th April 1762.
Original transmitted

May it please your Honors Your Honors
most faithfull and most Obedient Humble
Servants

via Madrass & Bombay

Dupl. & Tripl. copies p
Godolphin & P Adml. Watson

Henry Van Sittart / Peter Amyatt/
John Johnstone / William Hay.

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LETTER DATED 30 OCTOBER 1762

Shipping news—imports from England—gunpowder mills at Perrin's Garden re-opened—difficulties regarding assay of gold in India—arrangements regarding investment and supply of saltpetre—ban on export of raw silk from China—outcome of Hastings' mission to Mir Qasim—limited assistance to Raja of Manipur against Burma—Vansittart's proposed visit to Mir Qasim at Monghyr—explanation regarding proposal to escort Shah Alam to Delhi and return of tankhwah lands to Mir Qasim—increase in ground-rent of Calcutta—enquiry into frauds in connection with fortifications—Col. Gail laud's complicity in plot to murder Shah Alam—Company's servants prohibited from private correspondence with H.M.'s ministers regarding Company's affairs—payment of lost bonds—account of restitution—war with Spain declared—expedition against Philippines—Board not empowered to grant letters of marque—confinement of Nandkumar proposed—bills of exchange.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

1. By the Godolphin, the last of the Ships dispatch'd from this Presidency, We address'd your Honors one Letter bearing date the 8th of April but that Ship having from several Accidents, which will be mentioned under their proper Heads, been prevented from proceeding on her Voyage, our said Address still remains in her former Packet and Duplicate of it will be received by the Admiral Watson.

2. We have this Year rec'd Your Commands by the several Ships dated the 30th Septr. with Postscript of the 7th Octr. & 23rd. Decr. 1761 27th Jan'y & 19th Febr'y 1762.

3. The Godolphins sailing having been protracted by various Accidents till this Time, We now dispatch her to your Honors, & along with her your Ship the Admiral Watson by both which Conveyances We shall acquaint you with the Transactions of this Government under the established Heads.

First of Shipping

4. You have already been advised of the Arrival of the Norfolk. Your Ships the Chesterfield, Tilbury, Clinton, Drake & Hardwick imported safely at Fort St. George on the following dates, 14th March, 25th June, 11th July, 3rd & 12th August, & after the necessary Detention at that Presidency being dispatched from thence arrived in our River the Chesterfield on the 31st May, the Clinton the 22nd August, the Tilbury & Drake on the 7th September, the Hardwick on the 1st October and your own Ship Admiral Watson likewise imported from Fort St. George on the 30th of August. The Gentlemen at that Presidency advise us that the following Ships have this year arrived with them & been dispatched to China namely the True Britton & Royal Captain from Bombay, the Osterley from Bencoolen, and the Essex from England—the Grosvenor imported there at the same time with the Hardwick but We have had no advice of her sailing for China neither have We yet received any Account of the Arrival of the Walpole or E. of Ashburnham or of the other Coast and China or Bombay Ships.

5. Your Honors may perceive from our Correspondence with the other Presidencys, that We Calculated upon being able to dispatch home six Ships this Season besides the Adml. Watson & therefore requested We might not be disappointed in that Quantity of Tonnage; this Calculation was made upon the footing of giving to each Ship three Hundred Tons of Salt Petre but We since find from an Estimate made of our Investment, that by the great Deficiency in the Article of Salt Petre, owing to the unseasonable Rains, & the Supplys We shall be obliged to send of it to Madras & Bombay, We shall not have it in our power to give to each Ship more than 250 Tons & by that means We shall only dispatch five Charter'd Ships & the Adml. Watson with full Cargoes, & the Sixth with a part Loading to be filled up at Madras.

6. Accordingly We purpose, if the Walpole & E. of Ashburnham arrive safe to dispatch those Ships home, after the Tilbury, Drake & Hardwick, & the Clinton We intend sending to Fort St. George in the month of January with her Proportion of Salt Petre to be filled up & dispatched home from thence.

7. The Gentlemen at Bombay having wrote us in their last Letters, that they will send us round two of their Ships, besides the Winchelsea, destin'd by your Honors for a particular Voyage, We have determined to return one

back to them with what Salt Petre may remain to be sent of this Years Supply; on the other We intend lading the Stores indented for from Fort Marlbro; to sail first to Fort St. George & take in the further Supplies to be sent from there, & then proceed to her place of Destination at Marlbro; where having deliver'd her Lading, We shall recommend her taking on board a Cargo of Pepper & being dispatched to China. The Winchelsea We shall endeavor to employ in such a manner, as to save her earnings to the Company, & prove advantageous to Capt. Howe.

8. In an Address dated the 26th of April & dispatched overland to
 Cons. Bombay & Madras to be forwarded by the first Op-
 [26th] April portunity's from those places, We acquainted your
 [27th?] April Honors that the Godolphin after all her Goods wer[e]
 sent down and her Packetts about being dispatch'd to Ingellee was reported
 by Capt. Roddam to the President to be in a doubtfull Condition,
 owing to a part of her Sheathing having rubb'd off and the Worms
 having penetrated to one of her main Planks. The President immediately
 acquainted the Board of this Circumstance in Consultation the 19th of
 April; whereupon Orders were given to the Master Attendant to survey
 the said Ship before he deliver'd her Dispatches, and in case of her
 proving to be not in fit Condition to proceed on her Voyage to Great Britain,
 then to protest against the Commander & part Owners of said Ship &
 return to Town with the Packetts. Next Council day being the 2nd of April
 We received a Letter from Capt. Roddam setting forth that his Ship had been
 prevented by the So. erly [southerly] winds from getting
 22nd April lower than Kedgerree, that she might be a considerable
 Time longer before she reached Ingellee, after which it
 might take much Time to receive on board the remainder of her
 Cargo as the least fresh of Wind Would prevent it; and further as the Season
 was so far advanced he thought it improper if not impossible to proceed to
 sea; for which reasons, he Protested in the name of his Owners against the
 Company for all Damages.

9. The said Letter & Protest from Capt. Roddam being taken into
 Consideration it appeared to us, that the late dispatch of the Ship was owing
 entirely to her not arriving from her Judda Voyage' till the 20th of February
 which delay was occasion'd solely by the bad Condition of the said Ship,
 which made Captn. Hutchinson think necessary to carry her into Dock at
 Bombay; After her arrival in the River no time was lost in unloading & loa-
 ding her again with all possible Expedition; The first Sloops with her Europe
 Cargo were dispatched from Town the 5th of March, & the last Sloop
 was dispatched the 3rd April; all which Reasons we set forth in a Letter to
 Captn. Roddam in answer to his & Concluded with Protesting against him
 and the part Owners for all Deficiencys, Losses & Damages that might be
 occasioned by his Delay in receiving on board his Cargo for Europe;

10. The 26 of April We rec'd our Master Attendants Letter acquainting us that He had made a carefull Survey of the Godolphin, assisted by the Company's Carpenter & found her to be in bad Condition as particularly mentioned in the said Letter and that it was his Opinion she must be repaired before she could be in proper Condition to take on board the Company's Cargo for Europe, for which Reason he had Protested as by us directed. The same Day We received also a Letter from Capt. Roddam, acquainting us that the Ship was not in Condition to proceed on her Voyage to Europe 'till she was repaired, & therefore requesting Leave to bring her to Town for that Purpose.

11. Hereupon We resolved to dismiss the said Ship from the Company's Service, untill she should be found on a fresh Survey in fit Condition to proceed on her Voyage to Great Britain; which resolution We accordingly made known to Capt. Roddam in answer to his said Letter, confirming at the same Time the Protest delivered by our Master Attendant, on board the Ship, and directing our Export Warehouse Keeper to unlade the Company's Goods with all possible Expedition. We at the same time, permitted Capt. Roddam to keep on board such part of the Salt Petre & Redwood, as he might find necessary for keeping his Ship in Grim [trim] in case of his resolving to bring her up to Town. We mention this last Circumstance that in case the Owners should make a plea that some of the Company's Goods remained on board, It may be known that they remained for the conveniency of the Ship & not of the Company.

12. The 7th of June Capt. Roddam wrote in a Letter acquainting us that his Ship had been repaired, was in good Condition and ready to take on board the Company's Cargo: whereupon We directed a Survey to be made by the Master Attendant, three experienced Commanders, & the Company's Carpenter.

13. The 14th of the said Month We rec'd their Report, that they had carefully Survey'd the said Ship & as far as they could discover found her in proper Condition to receive on board the Company's Cargo for Europe; whereupon We directed the Master Attendant to acquaint us with his Opinion, when the Pilots could take charge of her to carry her out of the River.

14. The 21st of June We received his Report & Opinion that she could not with Safety leave the River untill the middle of August; upon which We resolved to deferr taking her into the Service untill the proper Season for lading on board her Cargo, of which resolution We gave due Notice to Capt. Roddam.

15. The 28th of June We received a Letter from Capt. Roddam urging the same Reasons as he had before mentioned for the delay of the Ship, &

protesting on behalf of his Owners for all Damages that might accrue from her being dismissed the Company's Service, as We had already set forth very fully, the Reasons for our Opinion that the Owners must be accountable for all the Delays of the said Ship, We did not think it necessary to send Capt. Roddam any Answer to this Letter, but on the 26th of July, We agreed to take the Ship again into the Service & ordered the Export Warehouse Keeper to begin to lade her. On the 23rd of August a Pilot was ordered to take charge of the Ship & carry her down to Ingellee, but the Southerly Winds & Freshes rendering her Passage very tedious, We have been prevented dispatching her so soon as We intended.

16. The delivering the Norfolk's Cargo took up an extraordinary long Time, owing to her arriving at a Season when Boats cannot be employ'd down the River on account of the violent Southerly Winds, & all the Sloops that could be hired were attending upon the Godolphin with her Cargo for Europe; a considerable Part therefore of the Norfolk's Cargo necessarily remained on board untill the Ship came up to Town after which also much delay was occasion'd by Capt. Mc. Conochies backwardness in delivering the

Goods to the boats which were sent for them all which being represented to the Board by the Import Warehouse Keeper in Consultation the 5th of July, We determined that a Calculate should be made of the Time lost by such backwardness, & that We should deduct so much from the Owners Account; upon which the necessary Orders being given and Capt. Mc. Conochie acquainted thereof, He delivered in a Letter the 8th of July representing that he

& his Officers had used all proper Diligence in delivering the Ship, & that the Delays were owing to the Company's People; an Enquiry therefore became necessary to ascertain the Truth of this Matter & for which purpose We directed

Capt. Mc. Conochie to attend the Board; himself being indisposed his Purser attended on his behalf the 12th of July when it appeared that there remained on board the Ship on her Arrival at Town Tons 172 Cw 10 lb 5 of the Company's Goods, that with the three Boats employed by the Import Warehouse Keeper for receiving the Company's Goods, she should have been cleared in three Days at farthest the whole Quantity of Goods on board being only the Tonnage of nine Boats if they had been returned with their proper Cargoes; instead of which the Officer of the Ship employed the Boats in fortyseven Trips which took up twenty eight Days; It appearing also by the Confession of the chief Officer of the Ship, that only Thirty and Thirty five Men were kept on board after the Ships Arrival at Town whereas by her Charter party she was obliged to have Eighty, It could no longer be disputed but that the Delay was owing to the Officers of the Ship & not to

the Company; whereupon It was resolved that only three Days demorage should be allowed after the

Ship's Arrival at Town, & the Account to be closed accordingly to the 3rd of June the Account was therefore made up & laid before the Board on the 19th of July & the Ballance due to the Owners £str 2188-16-9 order'd to be paid out of the Treasury.

17. We advised in our Letter of the 8th April of our having taken up the Norfolk for a Trip to Chittagong but so much Time
 Cons. 3rd May being spent in unloading her Capt. Mc. Conochie delivered in a Letter of the 3d. of May representing that he thought it impracticable to attempt the Voyage; and We have it now under Consideration to send one of the Ships of this Season, to bring the Timbers which have been cut at that Place for the Buildings in the new Fort.

18. The Chesterfield was deliver'd on the 19th of July, as reported by the
 23rd August Warehouse Keeper to the Board the 23rd of August with this Observation that a small Quantity of Copper was kept on board a few Days longer at the request of her Commander; In consequence of which her Account was ordered to be made up to the 19th of July, but the next Consultation on receipt of a
 30th Augt. Letter from Capt. Duff, representing the Necessity of his stopping the Delivery for a few days 'till he had a sufficient Weight in the Ships bottom to prevent her coming by any Damage We agreed to allow him two days more demorage for the Time it would have taken to have unloaded the remaining Copper, & the Account Current made up accordingly to the 21st of July is enter'd after our Consultation of the 30th Augt. Balance whereof due to the Owners being 1231-13-11 was ordered to be Discharged.

19. We must acquaint your Honors that Capt. Marchant died on the 9th June & was Succeeded in the command of the Chesterfield by his chief Officer Mr. Duff the Ship was put up to Sale under the Limitations agreed on between the Company & the Owners, but no Purchasers offering the Agents for the Owners have returned the Ship to Fort St. George.

20. Capt. Mc. Conochie of the Norfolk died also on the 1st of August & the Ship being put up to Sale was purchased by Mr. Hardwick.

21. We have not yet rec'd any one of the four Schooners which We requested so long ago from Bombay for the Pilot's Service but We are promised that one of them will come round this Season; & We likewise expect the two which We order'd to be built at Chittagong about the end of the Year.

22. Your Honors may be assured that We shall avoid putting you to any unnecessary Expence in this or any other branch of your Affairs, but it being of the utmost Consequence to the Safety of your own Ships as well as of those of private Traders residing under your Protection, to have the River supplied with a sufficient Number of Pilots & Pilot Vessels, We are perswaded your

Honors will agree with us in opinion that too much of Economy in this Article will be bad Policy in the end.

23. Your Honors directions in the 3rd Para. of Your Letter under the 19th of Febry. relative to the Terms on which the French Prisoners are to be sent home, have always been conformed to, & shall continue to be so.

24. On the Adml. Watson We have sent you fifteen French Prisoners agreeable to the List enclosed in the Packet.

25. The Leopard Snow and the Cuddalore Schooner returned here from Madrass in the months of April & May having been long employed under the orders of that Presidency without receiving the necessary Repairs they arrived here in very bad Condition but being now refitted are capable of any Services that may be found most usefull the former is at present under dispatch to Chittagong with a Supply of Stores.

Cons.
[...4th] Octr.

Secondly of Goods from Europe or from One part of India to another.

26. For the Sales of your Woollen Goods, Copper and Lead, We beg leave to refer your Honors as usual to the Account of the publick Sale on the 17th August & following Days, which is enter'd after the Consultation of the 30th August & goes a number in the Packet, amounting to Current Rupees eight Hundred twenty three thousand seven Hundred & Eighty four Annaes. We need only desire your Honors Inspection of those Sales for information of the low Price which Copper bears with us at present; & as We find by Letters from the other Presidencies desiring us to assist them in Vending that Article, that the Consumption is equally at a Stand in the other parts of India, We trust your Honors will regulate yourselves accordingly In the Export untill you receive from us or your other Settlements more favorable Advices.

30th Augt.

27. You will observe that Broad Cloth sold for a higher Price than at the former sale, but Perpets continuing still out of Demand We beg leave to repeat our Recommendation for sending none or as few as possible.

28. We have rec'd your Consignments of Madeira Wine, by the several ships arrived here, & at Fort St. George, which touch'd at Madeira. The same has been landed in good Order & proves good in its Quality. In compliance with your Honors Commands We determined to distribute no further Gratuities of this Article, but to grant to each Covenant & Military Servants their respective Proportions upon their paying for it according to your honors stipulated Rate & expose the Remainder at a publick Sale for what it might fetch which Determination stands minuted on our Consultation of the 30th of August; and as We chearfully acquiesce in your Honors Commands for paying the advance of 20 P Cent. We entreat you will comply with our strenuous Solicitations for regular Supplies of this Article annually.

30th Augt.

29. In the 33rd. Para. of our last Address under the established Heads, We informed your Honors of having put a stop to the making of Gunpowder at the Old Mills at Perrins, together with our Reasons for that Step; but as We have been disappointed in our Expectations of finishing the New Mills so speedily as We hoped for, We were obliged to direct Mr. Smith powder-Maker to put the old Mills again in repair & begin making Powder at them as soon as the Season would permit.

30. The Gunpowder made here although proper enough for common Service is found not to be fit for Musquet Cartridges We request therefore that your Honors will not fail to send us yearly as much as your Ships can conveniently bring of this Article.

31. Regarding our Mint We Wrote your Honors very fully last Year, in the 34 to 38 Para. of our Letter under the established Heads; in answer to what you direct in your Letter of this Season, We Must inform your Honors, that We can find no Persons in this Country who are sufficiently acquainted with the Art of assaying Gold, & supposing We had a Person acquainted with the Method, the Process cannot be undertaken without every kind of Mint utensil, which it is not in our Power here to provide.

32. We observe what your Honors write us regarding the Cornish Tin & when you are pleased to send us a further sample, We shall Certainly make of it the most accurate trial possible and advise your Honors particularly of the Success.

Thirdly of Investment

33. Our Cloth & Silk Investment this Year will consist of good [s three Thousand eight Hundred Bales & Chests, for the several transactions in the provision of which at the Subordinates & Aurungs, as well as the other business of the Subordinates, We beg leave to refer
 26th Augt. your Honors to our Books of Letters & Abstracts of our Aurung Accounts.

34. A general Sketch of the Advances already made for our Investment are nearly as follows vizt.

To the Calcutta Aurungs	fifteen Lacks
To Cossimbuzar about	Eight Lacks
To Dacca	Four Lacks
To Luckypore . . .	Two Lacks
To Mauldah	Two Lacks

Patna has been supplied with two Lacks of Rupees besides the large Drafts they have made by Bills of Exchange, but as their Accounts are blended with the Charges of the Military stationed there. We cannot exactly ascertain how much they have employed for their Investment which they acquaint us will this year consist of 70,000 Maunds of Petre & 40,000 Pcs [pieces] of Cloth.

35. The Gentlemen at Chittagong have advised us that they expect to provide this Year between Eight & Ten thousand Pieces of Cloth of different Sortments, which when rec'd shall be carefully inspected ; & if they prove equal to the Musters sent you last Year, the enlarging of the Provision shall be strongly recommended.

36. Fair Transcripts of your List of Investment rec'd by the Ships of the Season have been forwarded to their respective Subordinates, with special Directions to conform thereto as far as the Provision yet to make of any of the Articles will possibly allow them.

37. In the month of March last, to comply in part with the earnest Demands from the Presidency at Bombay for Salt Petre, we Ship'd on board two Country Vessels called the William & Fatty dad 2500 Bags ; but We are sorry to inform your Honors that the former Vessel [...] Mar. having a thousand Bags on board was taken on her Passage by a French Frigate; the other not being able to make her Passage round Ceylon put into Trincomalay, & the Gentlemen at Fort St. George recommended to the Captain to come there. He has accordingly proceeded to Madras and delivered his Salt Petre which has proved a good Supply for their October Ship.

38. The Gentlemen at Bombay having represented to us in their Letter of the 7th June in the most earnest Terms their wants of Salt Petre & demanded a supply of no less than Twenty thousand Bags or Forty thousand Maunds, & they have also required of us from Madrass in their Letter of the 24th June to furnish them with Two hundred Tons, We wrote immediately to the Chief & Council at Patna to know what they expected would be the produce of their Salt Petre Investment that We might be enabled i possible to comply with their Demands. By their Answer of the 23rd July, We were concerned to find that from the unseasonable Rains which had fallen in the beginning of the Year, that the Outturn of that Article would fall short, no less than 20,000 Maunds of our original Expectations. It was in consequence of this Advice therefore that We determined in Cons. of the 2nd August to confine our own dispatch of Ships home to five, with 250 Tons of Petre on each as mentioned in the 5th Para. of this Letter, and furnish the other Presidencys with Thirty Thousand Maunds, namely—Twenty thousand to Bombay & Ten thousand to Fort St. George, Three thousand Maunds of the latter Quantity We have already sent to the Coast on the Spencer Country Ship for compleat- ing the Tonnage of the Ship they purpose to dispatch home this Month, & the remainder We shall send them, as already mentioned, in the month of Jan'y by the Clinton. We have likewise laden Six thousand Maunds for Bombay on the Country Ship Adml. Pocock now under Dispatch, & shall forward them the Ballance of their Proportion by one of the Ships which may come round.

39. The Ten Lacks We consigned to Fort St. George to be forwarded to China, as advised in our Addresses of last Cons. 26th April. Season have arrived safe except the one Lack laden on board the Prince Edward Country Ship which left the River on the first April & has not since been heard of, & indeed We are afraid from the long Time she has been missing that she is totally lost.

40. The Gentlemen at Fort St. George have since wrote us that the now tranquil State of their Affairs has enabled them to encrease this Stock to fourteen Lacks of Rupees and that they have dispatched with it to China the Osterley & the Royal Captain & the True Briton which were sent round to them from Bombay.

41. Mr. Claude D'Laporte has arrived on the Hardwicke, & pursuant to your Orders shall be employ'd in such manner as may seem most eligible for improving & assisting our Cloth Investment.

42. As the Ships to be dispatched this Season will have a large Proportion of Bale Goods than the last, the Amount of their Invoices will consequently be greater, but We shall be careful to make the five Ships as equal as possible.

43. Considering the Prohibition of exporting Raw Silk from China We thought proper to direct our Chief & Council at Cossimbuzar to extend their Provision of that Article as much as possible and
18th Octr. in Consequence of Information from Mr. de la Porte that Silk piece Goods in their natural Colour, would be most proper for several of the Markets in Europe where they would dye them of such Colours as best suited their own Taste and Customs we have directed five Chests to be sent in that State & shall forward one to your Honors by each Ship for a Trial.

44. We have given a strict Charge to our Export W H K. to endeavor, if possible to discover the Cause of the Deficiency's found in some of the Balcs of which your Honours transmitted us a List & to take effectual Care to prevent any such Accident for the future.

Fourthly of Transactions with the Country Government

45. We acquainted your Honors in our Address of the 8th April that Mr. Hastings was gone on a Deputation to the Nabob with a view chiefly to confirm the Friendship between us & remove some little Jealousies & Apprehensions which We had reason to imagine he had conceived from some false Reports which had been industriously spread in the Country & with further Instructions from the Majority of the Board to make a demand of the twenty Lacks he had offered the President & the other Gentlemen present of the Select Committee at the time of concluding the Treaty for promoting him to the Neabut or Deputy Government of the Provinces under the Nabob Jaffier Ally Cawn & succeeding to the Subahaship after

him. To the first of Mr. Hastings's instructions the Nabob answered that the little Disputes which fell out between his People & Ours & which would sometimes unavoidably happen did not weaken his Confidence in our Friendship upon which he rested his chief Dependance, To the Second he absolutely refused to comply with the demand for twenty Lacks urging that he had fulfilled all his Engagements & was under no Obligation to give such a Sum or any Sum to the Company or any Person whatever. For further particulars We beg leave to refer your Honors to our Correspondence with Mr. Hastings during his Absence & the Memorial deliver'd to him by the Nabob entered in Consn. of the 14th June.

46. In Consultation of the 4th October, the President sent to the Board
 Cons. a Letter which he had rec'd from Mr. Verelst at
 4th Octr. Chittagong, containing an Invitation which had been
 made to him & his Council by the Rajah of (a) Meckley to assist him in
 obtaining redress for some Grievances he complained
 (a) Meckley is a province about 250 Miles to the Eastward of Chittagong and Moneypoor is the Capital of the said Province.
 to have suffer'd from the Burmahs, & enclosing a paper of Articles of Alliance which the Rajah had tender'd to be executed between him & us for this purpose. Which Letter & Articles of Alliance being taken into Consideration it was the Opinion of the Board that the Articles was [sic] very favorable and that the Opportunity would be no less so, If we could with propriety come into the Scheme for obtaining reparation from the Burmahs for the repeated Ill-treatment of our Factory at Negraise; but as it was judged necessary & proper before we proceeded further, to call for the Opinion of Colonel Coote & Major Carnac upon the Subject, The Secretary was order'd to summon them to the next Consultation.

47. At our next Consultation the Colonel being indisposed could not attend, but the President & Major being both present, the consideration of this Affair was resumed; when the President
 [.]Octr. laid before the Board Translates of some Letters which he had received from the King & Shujah Dowla earnestly soliciting the Assistance of a large body of Troops to enable the King to gain possession of the Capital this Application we are informed by a Letter from Mr. Ellis to the President laid before the Board at the same time, has been owing to a powerfull Alliance made by the former Vizir Gzoadin Cawn against Shuja Dowla & which is headed by the Abdallees. As we cannot yet foresee what Revolutions & Troubles may be produced from this Alliance & how far they may affect Bengal We judged it improper for the present to detach any Europeans to so distant a quarter as Meckley; but it being likewise thought prudent not to lose the Opportunity of contracting an Alliance with the Rajah of Meckley It was resolved to detach a Force consisting of six Company's of Seapoys commanded by three Officers to take a post at Moneypoor, & there under the direction of Mr. Verelst or one of his Council, make themselves acquainted with the Strength Nature

and Dispositions of the Burmahs, & of this Intelligence to send us advice but to proceed to no Hostilities without our positive Directions. We are hopeful that this undertaking will open to us a road for obtaining Satisfaction for the many Injuries we have Suffer'd from the Burmahs & in case nothing disturbs our Tranquillity to the Northward We shall certainly embrace it.

48. In answer to the Kings Application for Troops the President has wrote him a complimentary Letter informing him of his intended Journey up the Country, & that he will again pay his more immediate Respects to him when he arrives at Mongheer. When the President arrives there he purposes conferring with the Nabob on this Subject. & having by this means gained Time to be further informed of the Views & Connections of the several Chiefs, we shall pursue such Measures as shall seem most proper for preserving the Tranquillity of these Provinces and securing the Company's Possessions & Interests under our Care.

49. With this View as well as for the Sake of the Change of Air the President set out a few days past for Mongheer where he will have an Interview with the Nabob & concert with him the most necessary Measures for obtaining those Salutary Ends. This meeting which the Nabob has frequently urged & requested will we are hopeful have the effect of removing entirely all those idle reports which a few busy People have industriously propagated about the Country with the design of alarming & making him uneasy, as likewise those mutual Jealousies which it has not failed to cause between our People & the Government in most parts of the Country to the interruption of the private Trade.

50. It may be proper in this place to say a few words in answer to the 30th, 31st & 32nd Para. of your Commands of the 19th February 176[2] To the first We have only to assure your Honors that it was ever far from our Thoughts to put the Company to the Expence of the Allowance of 1000 Rupees a day made to the Shawzadah & to acquaint you the whole Charge was born[e] by the Nabob. To the Second your Honors may observe from the Proceedings of the Select Committee & from the whole Tenor of our Correspondence that We never regarded the Expedition to Delhy as an Undertaking to be wished for in itself but only as Secondary to the Tranquility of Bengal that is that it would be better to join a part of our Force with the Shawzadah to conduct him to his Capital than to employ the same Force in carrying on a War against him in Bengal. To the third We hoped that the reasons given in the 68th & 69th Paragraphs of our Address of the 16th January 1761 would have been sufficient to satisfy your Honors of the propriety of giving back the Tuncaw Lands to the Nabob the Sum of those Reasons was that the Nabob had a right to Claim them offering other Security for the Ballance the term of the Assignment being expired & that We had a view of getting Burdwan (by far the most considerable of those Lands) ceded to the Company and which being first cleared from the Mortgage or Assignment the old Ballance to be paid by the Nabob separately would be so much saved or gained to the Company We shall only add now that the

Event has proved the Justness of our reasoning & that the Company in Effect have gained Sixteen lack of Rupees by this measure.

Fifthly, of Revenues

51. In the 73d. Paragraph of our general Address of last Season by the Hawke your Honors are acquainted that Mr. Sumner had settled the Burdwan Payment with the Rajah for the Bengal Year 1168 that is from the 10th of April 1761 to the 10th of April 1762 at Thirty two & a half Lacks of Sicca Rupees besides the ballance of the Year 1167 being about five Lacks & that Mr. Graham was left to attend to the Collection after Mr. Sumner's return to Calcutta. We have now the pleasure to acquaint you that the Collections were continued with so much Success that at the end of the Year the out-standing Ballances were only as follows;

Of the Year 1167.... Rs. 261857-13-6

Of the Year 1168.....105291-10-.

52. At the beginning of the present Year 1169 We thought necessary to send a Member of the Board to make a new Agreement with the Rajah & Mr. Johnstone being appointed for that purpose, proceeded accordingly to Burdwan. By the Accounts he procured of the State of the Country and its total produce he brought the Rajah to an Agreement for the present Year 1169 to pay Thirty four Lacks of Sicca Rupees besides the Ballances before-mentioned. To this Time the Collections are made to our Satisfaction & if nothing happens to interrupt the Tranquility the Country now enjoys We hope yet a further increase may be made in this valuable Article of the Revenues.

53. Some Improvements have also been made in Chittagong & Midnapoor but being but inconsiderable We refer your Honors to the 74th and 75th para: of our general Address of the 12th of Novr. 1761 for the amount of those Revenues & to the Proceedings of the Committee of New Lands for the particulars of what Alterations have happened.

54. The Revenues of the three Provinces before mentioned do now amount to Forty five Lacks of Sicca Rupees making upwards of Fifty two Lacks of Current Rupees so that our Expectations from these new acquired Possessions are already fully answered.

55. In Conformity to what we mentioned in the 9th Para: of our Address of the 8th April 1762 We have kept the Calcutta Pergunnahs in the Company's hands for the present Year excepting Mahgoorah the lease of which is not yet expired. Every Member of the Committee of new Lands has Charge of one or more Pergunnahs for the particulars of which Disposition & the Informations procured in Consequence upon the several Articles mentioned in the aforesaid Para: in our Address of the 8th of April We beg leave likewise to refer your Honors to the proceedings of the Committee of new Lands.

56. In respect to the Salt Farm of the Calcutta Pergunnahs mentioned in the same Para: it was often times debated both by the Committee of Lands & the Board which would be the most advantageous way of disposing of it whether by letting the exclusive right of making Salt in each Pergunnah, encreasing the Tax upon the Salt pans & so letting every Person work as many as he should find convenience or finally keeping this Trade in the Company's own hands & making the Salt in [all?] the Calcutta Pergunnahs on their own Account: After hearing the reasons on all Sides it was determined by the Majority of the Board to proceed upon the second of the before mentioned Plans & accordingly a Tax of Thirty Sicca Rupees was settled upon each Salt pan & leave it free for every Person to work them at pleasure the Arguments on all Sides are stated in Consultation of the 30th August when the question was determined what may be the amount of this Revenue cannot be ascertained till the end of the Year as We know not what number of Salt pans will be worked the Salt pans spoke of in the 12th Para : of our Address before mentioned called Coss Calarrees or Government Salt pans make a separate Article the number of them is found to be 228½ which let last Year for Thirty-eight Sicca Rupees each they will shortly be let again for the present Year.

Cons. 9th July 57. In the 13th Para: of our Address of the 15th February 1762, we mention the difficulty we were under in what manner to assist [assess] the Inhabitants for a proportion of the Expences of repairing Roads, making drains &ct. taking that matter again into Consideration it [1st ?] July occurred to us that no better Method could be found than increasing the Ground rent as that would lay the burthen equally on every Inhabitant Europeans and Natives in proportion to his Possessions especially as the former Ground rent for the Town of 9th July Calcutta was rated extremely low being only from two to three Rupees the Beega & amounting in the whole to Rs. 17744-12-1. We determined therefore to double this Tax in lieu of an Assessment for the purposes beforementioned.

Sixthly of Fortifications Buildings & Repairs

58. Agreeable to your directions we resumed the Enquiry into the Frauds committed in this Branch while Mr. Brohier had charge of it; we formed ourselves into a Committee for this Purpose, & took to our Assistance some of the Senior Servants; there are a great number of Bengal Accounts under the examination of Messrs. Bolts & Rogers two of the Committee from which some further Discoveries may possibly be made but as yet all that we can learn by the examination of the Parties concerned agrees as to the amount of the Frauds with the Account entered in the separate consultations on this Subject in the Year 1760.

59. But we are very sorry to have occasion to acquaint you that it is asserted by Radakissen Mullick and Ramneddy that the Sum of about

Ct. Rs. 40,000 being a part of the said Frauds was received by Mr. Mackett during his Paymastership & the Sum of Twenty thousand Rupees by Mr. Boddam during his & they add that this is the reason that these two Sums stand separate in the account given to Mr. Holwell & entered in the separate Consultations 26th June 1760-Our proceedings in this Enquiry are transmitted to your Honors in the Packett.

60. We can assure your Honors that after the strictest Enquiry, Mr. Charlton has altogether acquitted himself of having had any Concern what ever in the gross Frauds, committed in carrying on the Works, & we further think ourselves obliged in Justice to him, to inform you that he has fully convinc'd us whatever Negligence may appear on his part, was entirely owing to his ill State of Health, at the Time which absolutely disabled him from giving the necessary Attention & Attendance to the Duties of his Office; of which he was so conscious that he requested Leave to resign, which Request was refused him as appears by the Consultation of the 9th October 1758 We therefore hope that you will please to take his unfortunate Situation into your Consideration & restore him to your Favour.

61. We have been informed by the Master of a Vessell who was at Columbo about the end of last Year that he saw Mr. Brohier there but that he was not employ[ed] by the Dutch, We now send the attested copy of his Bond which by mistake was omitted before. The suit in the Mayors Court of Mary De Lore against the Company is not yet determined, but is ready for hearing, We have heard by report that Mr. John Lowis died at Batavia.

62. Your Honors have no doubt been acquainted long ago by the President & Council of Bombay of the death of Mr. Mace whose loss is the more unlucky as Mr. Amphlett has been obliged by the
 Cons. [...] Octr. very ill-State of his Health to resign the Charge of the Works; We must do this Gentleman the Justice to take notice to your Honors that we firmly believe the Disorder he is subject to has been brought on him by his close Application to the great Work he had in Charge & the continual Fatigue he underwent in the Execution thereof & it was the Opinion of the Physicians that he was no longer able to bear it and that his attempting it would greatly endanger his Life, In such Circumstances we could not refuse him leave to resign the Charge & as we have had continual Occasion to repeat his Praises we are perswaded your Honors will always regard him as a Person worthy of your Favor.

63. Upon the resignation of Mr. Amphlett we have given the Charge of the works to his head Assistant Lieutt. Pollier & at the same time promoted him to the rank of Captain Lieutenant in the
 [...] Octr. Corps of Engineers, Mr. Huygens now second Lieutenant in that Corps and Mr. Adams Ensign in the same are his only Assistants.

We hope therefore your Honors will not only send us a capable chief Engineer but a number of Assistants upon the footing recommended in the 86th Para : Of our general Address of the twelfth of Novr. 1761.

64. For the particulars of what work has been done at the Fort the last fair Season we beg leave to refer you to the Engineers letters entered after our Consultations of 26th July & 11th Oct. the compleating three large Magazines, clearing the Esplanade & laying the Foundations for three ranges of Barracks are the most remarkable Articles, We shall do every thing in our Power to promote the speedy Progress of all the other parts which remain to be done & proceed upon the plan recommended by Mr. Amphlett in his Letter of the 11th October.

65. Agreeable to your Directions in the 40th Para : of your Commands of the 19th of February 1762 the President has paid the purchase Money of the Garden-house & the Cost of the Out houses built since. In Consultation of the 20th Septr. You will see his Letter to the Board on this Subject and We must join with him in representing to your Honors that We hope our Conduct in making that Purchase would not have drawn upon us your Censure had it been considered that at the time of our taking that Measure we had not received your Orders for the Additional Appointments settled on the Governor by your Letter of the 13th of March 1761 & that We had the universal Precedent of all your Settlements for providing the Governor with a Gardenhouse.

Seventhly of Covenanted & Military Servants & their Accompts.

66. We acquainted your Honors in our Address of the 8th of April 1762 that Mr. Mc. Gwire was readmitted into your Service. Accordingly on his arrival from Patna he took his Seat at the Board by which the Vacancy caused by Mr. Smith's Resignation was filled & the number made up eleven besides the Colonel & Major.

67. But as no less than six of this number are absent at Subordinates vizt. Patna, Cossimbuzar, Dacca, Lukypore, Chittagong & Burdwan We found the Business of the Presidency too heavy to be conducted by the remainder being only four besides the President & therefore We determined in Consultation 20th Septr. to call two more Gentlemen to the Board & accordingly the two next Senior Servant[s] Messrs. Randolph Marriott & Hugh Watts were appointed of Council.

68. Colonel Coote finding his Health much impaired acquainted the Board by Letter minuted in Consultation of the 11th October of his determination to proceed to Europe & requested our Orders to Capt. Roddam to accommodate him on board the Godolphin, on which Ship he accordingly takes his Passage. As your Honors have already expressed your high & just

Sense of this Gentlemen's important Services it is needless for us to enlarge on that Subject therefore We shall only say that We think him worthy of every regard the Company can shew him.

69. Immediately upon the receipt of your Orders we entered upon an Enquiry into the report of Coll. Caillaud's having assented to a Proposal of the old Nabob's for causing the Shawzadah to be
 Cons. 13th May assassinated & gave notice of the said Enquiry to the President & Council at Madrass desiring them to recommend to Coll. Caillaud to come down to Bengal to be present at it; he accordingly took his Passage in the Clinton and by a Letter of 4th Octr. acknowledged the fact to be true but accompanied it with many strong Circumstances by way of apology & to prove that he had no ill Intentions Your Honors will receive the whole Proceedings in the Enquiry in a separate Sett of Consultations & as we are convinced the Coll. was actuated by no other reasons than those which he has produced and urged in his defence so we hope that you will also judge him in the same favorable manner & preserve towards him that good Opinion which his long & Zealous Services have merited & established he takes his passage for England in the Admiral Watson.

70. We have advised of Mr. Dela Porte's arrival under the third head.
 19th July Messrs. Leycester & Shewen are also arrived as well as
 13th Septr. Hurst, Bentley, Stuart Bateman, Cotterell & Croke and
 30th Augt. stationed as most usefull for the particulars of which
 13th Septr. We beg leave to refer you to the usual List.
 11th Octr.

71. Mr. Charlton agreeable to your directions stands dismissed Your Service but We hope the Circumstances mentioned in his favor in the 60 Para: of this Address may induce your Honors to restore
 11th May him & as he represented to us the heavy loss it would
 27th Septr. occasion him to be obliged to return to Europe without having time to collect in his Affairs We have consented to his remaining in India till your further Pleasure is known.

72. The Casualties on your Military List since our last advices of the 8th of April 1762 are as follows deceased, Lieutenant Joseph Watkins, Ensigns Abraham Wilkinson, John Lewis Izeling, Matthew Finlayson & Thomas Launder also Second Lieutenant of the Artillery Abraham Dackers resigned Ensign Phillip Loyd, Dismissed by the Sentence of a general Court Martial Peter Cockey.

73. Captain John Matthews having long laboured under a very bad State of Health & being advised by the Surgeons to proceed to Europe as the only means of recovery requested our Leave for that purpose in a Letter entered after our Consultation of the 18th October & further as He hoped the Change of Air might have the desired Effect in which case he should be

desirous of returning to his Duty that We would recommend to your Orders [Honors?] to permit him so to do without any loss of rank, this We very willingly do in Justice to his long Services & particularly as his ill State of Health has been brought upon him by the frequent Wounds he has received.

74. Lieutenant William Ellison of the Hussars being rendered by Age and Infirmities unfit for further Services We have permitted him to retire upon his pay.

75. The Promotions since our last advices are as follows. Ensigns, John Macklean & John Stables to be Lieutenants and Cadets Thos Pearson, Cons. 8th July John Coker, George Thomson, Willm. Crawford, Saml. 24th May Blewit & Willm. Lander to be Ensigns. Cornet Isaac 8th July Humphreys to be second Lieutenant of the Troop of 26th July Horse Commanded by Captain Spelman & Mr. Wm. 5th July Hesman to be Adjutant of the Cavalry.

76. We have already advised your Honors of the Resolution of the President and Council of Fort St. George to send Captn. Freekes troop of light Horse to Bengal and of the Arrival of that part of the said Troop which embarked on the Norfolk since which 31st May the Chesterfield has brought Captn. Freeke with the rest 14th June of the Troop and We gave Commissions to Captn. Freeke & all his officers to rank from the Time of their Arrival at Fort St. George conformably to your Directions.

77. Captain Lauchlane Macklane immediately on his Arrival had a Brevet given him & will succeed to the Vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Captain John Matthews. Captns. Robert Campbell & Francis Flaction are not yet arrived and Mr. Scotney to whom your Orders were notified has declined entering again into a Military Station.

78. Mr. Benjamin Lacam who has been employed in your Service as a monthly Writer for more than a Year has by his great Diligence merited our particular Notice & We beg leave to recommend him 26th Augt. to be admitted upon the List of your Covenanted Servants & We must, likewise take the Liberty to repeat our recommendation on the same head in favour of Messrs. Isaac Sage & Simeon Drol.

79. The List of Military Officers is now sent you in the form prescribed in the 52d. Para : of your Letter of the 19th February.

80. In the 57th Para : of the same Letter you take notice a second Time of a Correspondence being carried on by some of your Servants concerning the Company's Affairs with his Majesty's Ministers & other great Men in England & repeat your disapprobation of this Practice for ourselves We can assure you, We have never offended in this way and We have made known your Directions to the rest of your Servants.

81. Your directions in favour of Captain Fenwicke have been notified to him and he begs leave to return you his humble Thanks.

82. Mr. Richard Smith one of the Powder Makers sent out in the Year 1760 deceased on the 11th of April last, & the management of the Powder Works now continues under the Survivor Mr. William Smith.

83. On the 28th of June our Master Attendant acquainted us of the death of Mr. Peter Connor Depy. Mr. Attendant. on the 16th of May at Luckypore, upon which We appointed Mr. Richard Dean the Senior Pilot to be Depy. Mr. Attendant as minuted on our Cons. of that day.

84. We cannot conclude this Head without again representing to your Honors our great want of recruits for your Forces which at present consist for the most part of French & Dutch Deserters—many
 Cons. 28th June die or grow unfit for Service every Year & if We have no Supplies to make up for these Casualties We shall soon have no other dependance than our Seapoys.

Eighthly of Accounts

85. Agreeable to Your Directions in your Letter of the 19th Feb. 1762 We shall notice to your Honors particularly what demands have been made on us for the payment of Bonds lost at the Capture of Calcutta.

86. Mr. Holwell as Attorney for the Heirs of Thos. Purnell in his Letter of the 5th March 1759 & again in his Letter of Octr. 1760 demanded Payment of Bonds in the Name of said Purnell dated 20th & 22nd Dec. 1750 for Ct. Rs. 39176-1-6 & produced a Certificate from the President & Council setting forth that the same had not been discharged before the Capture of the Place for which reason & as We are informed no Claim for account of Company's Bonds was admitted by the Commissioners for Restitution we think the same is justly due.

87. Mr. Holwell as Trustee for Robert Massey decd. by his Letter of the 5th of March 1759 & likewise by his Letter of Octr. 1760 demanded Payment for a Bond in his own Name for behoof [*sic*] of the deceaseds Widow for Ct. Rs. 10,000 & produced a Certificate from the President and Council setting forth that the same had not been discharged before the Capture of the Place we therefore think the same is justly due for the reasons mentioned in the before-going Para :

88. Mr. William Fullerton by his Letter of the 12th of Novr. 1760 demanded Payment for a Bond in the name of Walpole Eyre Esqr. for principal Ct. Rs. 2273-12-9 & produced a like Certificate We therefore think the same is justly due for the reasons mentioned in the 86 Para :

89. Captain Edward Roach as Trustee for Geo : & Mary Tipping by his Letter of the 17th Nov. 1760 and likewise by his Petition of the 11th Octr. 1762 demanded payment of a Bond in the Name of the said Geo : & Mary

Tipping for Ct. Rs. 5627-2-3 & produced a like Certificate. We therefore think the same is justly due for the reasons mentioned in the 86 Para :

90. Messrs. Culling Smith and Ans: Beaumont as Attorney's for Roger Drake Junr. & Mr. John Brown by their Letter of the 26th Decr. 1760 demanded Payment of two Bonds in the name of the said Roger Drake Junr. & John Brown for (Ct. Rs. 10324-5) & produced a like Certificate. We therefore think the same is justly due for the reasons mentioned in the 86 Para :

91. A black Merchant likewise demanded Payment of one Bond in the name of Anundeeram Copperce for (Ct. Rs. 800) & produced a like Certificate We therefore think the same is Justly due for the reasons mentioned in the 86 Para :

92. Application was likewise made to us as mentioned in our Letter of the 14th Decr. 1761 for payment of two bonds in the name of Dorothy Bellamy for (Ct. Rs. 4351-14-3) & like Certificates were produced We therefore think the same are justly due for the reasons mentioned in the 86 Para :

93. These are all the Bonds for which payment has as yet been demanded of us.

94. In consequence of your Directions of the 19th of Feby. 1762 para. 65 to 79 we Summoned the Commissioners of Restitution to attend the Board the 18th of October & having enquired concerning the Oath of Secrecy mentioned by your Honors we find
 Cons. 11th & 18th Octr. it was of the nature of the Oath administ[er]ed to a grand Jury binding them not to discover the Opinions of their Fellows but it by no means restrains them from giving all the Explanations you require and accordingly they have delivered to us one book containing all the particulars of the Claims made and another containing an account of the Sums admitted upon each & of the Dividends made for Principal & Interest these Books are very Voluminous & cannot be copied in time to go by this Conveyance but shall be forwarded by one of the other Ships.

95. We must acquaint you that the 7½ p. Cent last divided to the European Sufferers was only the ballance of the 20 p. Cent Interest allotted upon that Fund 12½ p-Cent having been divided before.

96. We must acquaint you also in answer to your 79th Para : that the Commissioners have no Sums remaining in their hands the payment never having been made to them out of the Treasury but to the Sufferers themselves. The neat balance on account of the fund destined for European Sufferers is (CRs. 58335-13-3) as mentioned in our Address of the 12th of Novr. 1761 Para : 65 this We shall reserve agreeable to your Order but we beg leave again to recommend you the Case of Mr. VanStaa den mentioned in the said Para : A fresh Memorial which We received lately from him on the Subject of his loss is entered after our Consultation of 18th Oct.

97. In the same Para : of our beforementioned Letter We acquainted you that the Armenian Sufferers had rec'd their whole Principal, the Portuguese 6 annas & the Natives 6 annas. In Consultation of 31st May 1762 We ordered the neat ballance of (CRs. 65469-0-7) to be paid to the Portuguese which makes up to them on the whole 9 annas 20 Hundth. parts & in Consultation of the 12th July 1762 We in like manner ordered the neat ballance of (CRs. 369473-7-3) to be paid to the Natives which makes up to them in the whole 7 annas & 25/100.

Cons.
31st May
12th July

98. To Sum up the whole of this Transaction the Europeans have received their Principal with 20 p Cent Interest, the Armenians their Principal only, the Portuguese 9 annas 20 Hundth. of their Principal, & all the funds are clear excepting the ballance beforementioned due to the European Sufferers & the Commission reserved So that your Honors will observe a vast disproportion in the Sums allotted to the Several Classes of Inhabitants when set against their respective Losses.

99. The Explanations you desire upon the books of Restitution closed the 9th of January 1761 have already been transmitted to you in another Sett of the same Books continued to October of the same Year the reason why the heads of Batta & Charges could not be closed in the first Books was that a considerable sum remained then to be received from the Nabob, upon which a further Charge of Batta must be incurred.

Ninthly of Transactions with the Dutch & other European Powers in India.

100. In the 32d Para : of our Letter of the 8th of April 1762 We acquainted you with the dispute We had had with the Dutch Government concerning some Deserters from our Troops at Patna & we forwarded in our Packet p Godolphin two of their original Letters on that Subject. We have since had some complaints from the Directors and Council of Chinsurah on the Subject of the Ophium Trade at Patna in which We have endeavoured to do them all the Justice in our Power. In our books of our Letters sent & received all the Letters on this Subject are entered & We send you the originals of the Dutch Letters in the Packett.

101. We likewise transmitt in the Packett for your Honors Inspection the original of the Answer which We lately received from the General & Council at Batavia relative to the Settlements of Natal & Tappaneooly.

102. We have perused the Memorial of the Dutch Directors to the States General & your Answer & We transmit in the Packet agreeable to your Directions the three original Letters of Mr. Bisdorn to the Nabob referred to in your Answer under No. 6 but We cannot find the original of his Letter of the 24th of Octr. 1759 referred to under No. 8 & the Articles presented to the Nabob No. 11 We send also the original Letters of the Consults of 26th of May & 29th of Sept. 1760.

103. We received an Application from the Director & Council of
 Cons. Chinsurah for a Supply of Salt Petre but as our Quantity
 9th Aug. fell short of our Expectations We could not spare any
 without disappointing Fort St. George & Bombay Presidencies or detain-
 ing one or more of your Ships which We purpose to load home from hence
 We therefore returned them for Answer that they must not depend on us for
 any but that if our Supply from Patna should prove larger than We had
 already made a Disposition for We would then furnish them with as much
 as possible.

104. Agreeable to your Orders the Declaration of War against Spain
 19th July has been proclaimed at this Presidency & all the Sub-
 ordinates.

105. A few days ago there arrived in the River a Small Grab Ship from
 Surat which had been taken on the 12th Septr. on the Malabar Coast by the
 Vengeur and Conde French Ships of War with the Fidelle frigate but she was
 dispatched to the Islands with so little Care that the Mate Richard Price
 recover'd her out of the their hands & brought her safe into Port— They
 have also brought all the Letters & dispatches intended for the French
 Islands by which We learn that these Ships left Foul Point, the 20th of
 August saw the land of the Malabar Coast the 12th Septr. and the same Day
 at Noon took the beforementioned Vessell being then in Latitude 8.48 off
 Ceylon—By a Letter dated the 13th Septr. it appears they were in Latitude
 7.12 and another wrote the same day (both from on board the Vengeur)
 sdated off Cape Comorin which serves to shew they were standing to the
 Southward. Of all these Circumstances We sent immediate advice to Fort
 St. George desiring they would communicate the same to the Commander
 of his Majesty's Ships upon the Coast & recommend his taking immedi-
 ately the proper Measures to secure the safety of our expected Shipping.

Tenthly of His Majesty's Sea and Land Forces

106. We have been advised by the President & Council of Fort St.
 George that Admiral Cornish with the greatest part of His Majesty's Fleet
 & General Drapers regiment sailed about the 1st of August upon the
 expedition against the Philippine Islands & We have since been informed
 by private Advices that the York & Chatham, Men of War arrived from
 the Cape of Good Hope at Madrass the Septr. and that the Medway sailed
 from Bombay for Madrass the 3d. of the same Month & We flatter
 ourselves that Capt. Tinkee who commands these three Ships will receive
 such timely Intelligence of the French Cruizers mentioned in the last Para;
 as may enable him to fall in with them and disappoint their Intentions.

Eleventhly of the West Coast

107. By a Letter from Mr. Ardley who was sent from Madrass to act as
 provisional Governor of Fort Marlbro we have been informed of the safe

Arrival of the Fox with the supplies we sent last Year for the use of that Settlement which we are concerned to observe has suffered much by Sickness.

108. Mr. Carter who sailed in August last from Madrass to resume the Government of the West Coast has sent us as Indent for Provisions & Stores which we shall comply with to the utmost of our Power, by a Ship to be appointed for that Purpose as mentioned in the seventh Para : of this Address.

Twelfthly of the Charter

109. Upon the Declaration of War against Spain being read at this Presidency several Merchants of the Place who were willing to fit out Cruizers against the Enemy of Great Britain applied to us to grant them Letters of Marque for that purpose; Whereupon We referr'd ourselves to the Company's Charter as well as the Commission of Admiralty, but finding from them that We had not any right to grant them such Commissions We agreed to request your Honors Orders for our future Conduct in such Cases & therefore hope you will favour us with them accordingly.

110. Number 36 in the Packett contains a list of Qories [Queries] from the Mayors Court, concerning some disputed points of Law; on which we request you will please to get the Opinion of Council & transmit the same to us for the future Guidance of that Court.

111. In the Copy of the Statutes at large, which you sent out last year for the use of the Courts of Justice, there was put up by Mistake, two Sixth Volumes & no fifth; We have therefore returned you one of them in the book Packett & desire you will send us a fifth in its Stead.

Supplement

112. In our Address of the 8th April 1762 by the Godolphin We informed you of an enquiry we had had before us concerning a Packet of Letters stopped on the road to Cuttack & said to be a Correspondence between Ram Churn and Comgar Cawn & in our Packet by that Ship we transmitted our Proceedings at length in the said enquiry. We remarked to your Honours in our said Address that several strong Circumstances appeared to give reason to believe that the whole Packet was a Forgery; fresh Circumstances appearing since to confirm the said belief, we entered into a further examination of this matter, our Proceedings wherein are likewise transmitted in the Godolphin's Packet; this further examination has fully convinced us that the Letters were forged, and there is great reason to think that Nundcoomar was the contriver thereof with a design of ruining Ramchurn. We cannot say there are such direct proofs as to fix the Crime upon him with an absolute certainty, nor indeed is it possible there should be positive proofs while he & his Moonchey (the only Persons supposed to be present when the Letters were forged) have resolution enough to persist in denying it.

113. The beforementioned Nundcoomar is the same Person, who was convicted some time ago of carrying on a Correspondence with the Burdwan Rajah, of a nature inconsistent with his Duty & hurtfull to your Interest; we find also that the same Nundcoomar was instrumental in carrying on a Correspondence between the Shawzada & the French Governor General before the capture of Pondicherry; this information was given to the President & by him being laid before the Board was proved by such positive Evidence as to leave no room to doubt of the Fact. The least we could conclude upon such Crimes was that Nundcoomar being a Person improper to be trusted with his liberty in your Settlement & capable of doing mischief if he was permitted to go out of this Province either to the Northward or towards the Deccan, should therefore be kept confined to his own House under so strict a guard as to prevent his writing or receiving Letters.

114. In a separate Letter of the 8th April by the same ship, we acquainted your Honors of our having received from Mr. Batson, a parcel of Persian writings said to be copies of Letters between the Nabob, Coza Petrus and Others of a dangerous Nature; you will find by our said Letter and the proceedings in our enquiry which accompanied it, that we greatly suspected this Packet also to be a Forgery which suspicion grew stronger every day from the evasions & excuses of the Person who gave these Copies to Mr. Batson, in complying with our demand that he should produce one or more of the Originals; after waiting about four months, having reason to believe that the whole was a Forgery invented with a design of making a difference between us & the Nabob, we ordered Mr. Batson to send Byaram¹ the Company's Vakeel who gave him the information to Calcutta & at the same time we acquainted the Nabob & his Deputy at Morshedabad with the whole Affair & the Names of his two Moonshes from one of whom Byaram told Mr. Batson he had received the Copies & the other he said had the Originals. Byaram being arrived in Calcutta & examined before the Board declared the Persian Copies were brought him by the hands of one Budde-odin a Relation of the Moonshes & the Moonshes on their part being examined by the Nabob's Deputy at Murshedabad declared they never gave Byaram the said Copies or any other Papers, & further that Budde-odin was a person unknown to them & a Dependent of Byaram himself. If this last Assertion is found on further Enquiry to be true we think, there is great Reason to conclude that Byaram is a principal in the Forgery, & that it will remain with him to produce Budde-odin whom we have not been able to find after the strictest Search, & therefore the enquiry rests unfinished till We see if the said Budde-odin will be forthcoming.

115. As well as those relative to the Fr: Correspondence Our Proceedings in this Enquiry are also sent in the Godolphin's Packett.

116. Captain Eiser of Coll. Cootes Regiment being obliged to return to Europe on account of his Health, takes passage in the Godolphin—He came out with Coll. Draper in the year 1758 & was remarkably serviceable in all the Transactions of the War on the Coast of Choromandel from the time of his Arrival which we take the Liberty to mention as we are persuaded that your Honors being sensible of his Merit, will seek an occasion of doing him Service.

117. We send in the Godolphin fifteen French private Men prisoners of War and fourteen Invalids of his Majesty's 84th Regiment agreeable to the Amended List enclosed in her Packett.

118. The Woollen Goods &ca. Europe Commodities imported by the Clinton, Hardwicke, Drake & Tilbury are not yet all landed, which renders it impracticable to send your Honors the reports of the deficiencies & acct. remains—but when they are all landed & the Indents for the ensuing Year come under our Consideration We shall not fail to advise you of the needful.

119. In the Packett p Ship Godolphin, We have sent your Honors an Account of the extraordinary Charges incurred in unloading & reloading the Godolphin's Cargo, which We imagine you will stand in need of in settling Accots. with the Owners of that Ship.

120. We have laden (& consigned to your Honors) on the Admiral Watson sundry Goods & Merchandize amounting to Current Rupees 245,500 as p Invoice and first bill of Lading enclos'd.

121. We have likewise laden on her sundry Stores for the use of the Island of St. Helena amounting to Curt. Rups. 1201-12-9 as p Invoice and bill of lading enclos'd to them.

122. We wish these Ships a safe & speedy Passage & are.

Fort William
30th Oct. 1762.

May it please your Honors,
Your faithful humble Servants.
Peter Amyatt/William Macgwire/
William Hay/Hugh Watts.

Postscript.

123. We have drawn upon your Honors by this Ship, the Adml. Watson Sixty Setts of bills of Exchange, payable at two Shillings & four pence p Current Rupee & ninety days after Sight amg. to Ct. Rs. 162067-15-3 or Pounds Sterling 18907-18-5 $\frac{1}{2}$ as follows:

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Register of Bills of Exchange drawn on the Company at Ninety Days Sight & two Shillings & four pence Current rupee.

Setts	To whom granted	To whom payable	Ct. Rs.	£Ss.
1	To Mr. Thomas Lane	To Mr. James Couper	428 9 3	50 0 0
1	To Major Richard Sherlock	To Mr. John Scott	4107 0 0	479 3 0
1	To Major Adams	To Mrs. Ann Adams	1714 4 6	200 0 0
1	To Capt. John Frake	To Thomas Nuttall Esqr.	2142 13 9	250 0 0
1	To Mr. William Bodle	To Christopher Baron Esqr.	1285 11 3	150 0 0
1	To Mr. John Robinson	To Chriss. Baron Esqr. & Dr. Geoc. Mc. Accley	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Mr. John Chambers	To Charles Chambers Esqr.	4328 9 3	505 0 0
1	To Mr. Joseph Jekyll	To Mess. Js. Jekyll Es. Brownsword & J. Langmore	1285 11 6	150 0 0
1	To Mr. William Smith	To Mr. Priscella Smith	314 14 6	36 14 9½
1	To Capt. Charles Long	To the Revd. Mr. Samuel Long	1714 4 6	200 0 0
1	To Mr. Phillip Milner Dacres	To Thomas Stonestreet Esqr.	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Mr. P. M. Dacres acct. Mr. Samuel Howitt.	To Mrs. Elizabeth Howitt	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Peter Amyatt Esqr.	To Peter Amyatt Esqr. or Order	5142 13 9	600 0 0
1	To Do. Do. acct. William Ellis Esqr.	To Mr. Joseph Sill Senr.	4285 11 6	500 0 0
1	To Colonel Eyre Coote	To Go. Hassc Esqr. & the Revd. Dean Cs. Coote	8571 7 0	1000 0 0
1	To the Honb'le James Phillip Lyon Esqr.	To the Honb'le Thomas Lyon Esqr.	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Hugh Watts Esqr.	To Js. Watts & Js. Farquharson Esqrs.	8571 7 0	1000 0 0
1	To Mr. Henry Lushington	To Mr Henry Lushington	4285 11 6	500 0 0
1	To Mr. John Burdett	To Mr. Thomas Burdett	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To John Johnstone Esqr.	To Sr. Jams. Johnstone & Mr. Saml. Hanway	4285 11 6	500 0 0
1	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont acct. Ste. Batson Esqr.	To Jas. Batson & Edd. Buckley Batson Esqrs.	8571 7 0	1000 0 0
1	To Mr. John Graham.	To Mrs. Margaret Jordan	428 9 3	50 0 0

LETTER TO COURT

1	To Mr. John Graham	.	.	.	.	To Mr. Jno. Graham & Mrs. Helen Graham	428	9	3	50	0	0
1	To the Hon'ble Hy. Vansittart Esqr. & Tysoe Saul Hancock Esqr. Ex'ors to Capt. Mc. Conobie.	.	.	.	.	To Mr. Edward Evasson	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Mr. Gilbert Ironside	.	.	.	.	To Mrs. Ann Ironside	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Tysoe Saul Hancock Esqr.	.	.	.	.	To Jonn. Ranson & Gabl. Snodgrass Esqrs.	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To Mr. Richd. Barwell	.	.	.	.	To Jonn. Ranson & Gabl. Snodgrass Esqrs.	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To John Wollaston	.	.	.	.	To himself or Order	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Thomas Amphlett Esqr.	.	.	.	.	To Ge. Clive Edd. Maskeline & Josh. Amphlett	8571	7	0	1000	0	0
1	To Major John Carnac	.	.	.	.	To George Clive	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To Do.	.	.	.	.	To himself or	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To William Mc. Gwire Esqr.	.	.	.	.	To Arthur Annesley Esqr.	8571	7	0	1000	0	0
1	To Lieut. Archibald Swinton	.	.	.	.	To Mr. John Swinton Senr.	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Mr. Thos. Cooke	.	.	.	.	To Geoe : Mandeville Esqr.	1714	4	6	200	0	0
1	To Mr. John Reed	.	.	.	.	To Leonard Ellington or	2571	6	9	300	0	0
1	To John Christian Eiser Esqr.	.	.	.	.	To himself	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To Lieut. John Grant	.	.	.	.	To himself	1285	11	3	150	0	0
1	To Mr. Henry Plowmn	.	.	.	.	To John Christian Ewer Esqr.	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To Geo : Fredrick Hehler	.	.	.	.	To Mrs. Eliza. Hehler	2000	0	0	233	6	8
1	To Mr. William Magee	.	.	.	.	To himself	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	Mr. Ditto	.	.	.	.	To Ditto	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Ditto	.	.	.	.	To Ditto	427	4	6	49	17	5
1	To Ditto	.	.	.	.	To Ditto	132	13	0	15	9	11

To whom Granted

To whom payable

Cts. Rs. £Str.

1	To Mr. William Magee	.	.	.	To himself	.	.	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Ditto	.	.	.	To Ditto	.	.	.	.	.	4000	0	0	466	13	4
1	To Ditto	.	.	.	To Ditto	.	.	.	.	.	2142	13	6	250	0	0
1	To Lieut. Smith of the Cavalry	.	.	.	To Miss Ninian Ballantine & Co.	.	.	.	.	.	214	4	3	25	0	0
1	To Mr. Sutton Banks	.	.	.	To James Eyre Esqr.	.	.	.	.	.	171	7	0	20	0	0
1	To John Caillaud Esqr.	.	.	.	To himself	.	.	.	.	.	8571	7	0	1000	0	0
1	To Warren Hastings Esqr.	.	.	.	To himself	.	.	.	.	.	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To Major John Adams	.	.	.	To himself	.	.	.	.	.	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To Major Richd. Sherlock	.	.	.	To himself	.	.	.	.	.	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To Major Alstieu	.	.	.	To himself	.	.	.	.	.	4285	11	6	500	0	0
1	To Edward Menzies	.	.	.	To Ditto	.	.	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Mr. John Wood acct. Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted	.	.	.	To Mr. Thomas Burnett	.	.	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Mr. John Wood	.	.	.	To Mrs. Mary Wood	.	.	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Mr. Gollin Campbell	.	.	.	To Mrs. Archibald Mc.Clean	.	.	.	.	.	2000	0	0	233	6	8
1	To Mr. Christopher Oliphant	.	.	.	To Mr. John Phillips	.	.	.	.	.	200	0	0	23	6	8
1	To Mr. Samuel Hoare	.	.	.	To himself	.	.	.	.	.	857	2	3	100	0	0
1	To Mr. William Smith	.	.	.	To Mr. Thos. Smith or order	.	.	.	.	.	1028	9	3	120	0	0

LETTER TO COURT

124. We have also drawn upon your Honors three Setts of Bills of Excha. payable at two Shillings & four pence p Current Rupee & three Hundred Sixty five Days after sight—Interest to commence thereon at the expiration of 90 days at the rate of 4 p Cent p Annum for the remainder of the Time—The Amount of the said Bills being (Ct. Rs. 96139-11-6) or (£str. 11216-5-10) as follows :

Setts	To whom granted	To whom paya.	Ct. Rs.	£Str.
1	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont in full for 1 Chest of Coral Beads marked DF No. B 3 imported p ship Hawke 1761	To Messrs. Jacob, Moses & Raphael Franco or Order	9298-5-0	1084-16- $\frac{1}{4}$
1	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont in full for 1 Chest of Coral beads mark'd G C B No. 14 Imported p.ship Worcester 1758.	To George Challoner Esqr.	4841-6-9	564-16-6 $\frac{1}{4}$
1	To Coll. Eyre Coote.	To John Hasse Esqr. and the Revd. Dean Charles Coote.	81999-15-9	9566-13-3 $\frac{1}{4}$

Fort William,
30th Octr. 1762
Origl. Transmitted
P Admiral Watson
& Godolphin
Duplicate p Tilbury

We are
May it please your Honors,
Your faithfull H'ble Servants,
Peter Amyatt/Will: Macgwire:
William Hay/Hugh Watts.

LETTER DATED 13 DECEMBER 1762

French menace to Company's shipping—Mr. Delaporte to advise on silk investment—complaints against misconduct of Mir Qasim's officers.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

1. Our last Address, under the Established heads, bore date the 30th. of October & was transmitted by the Godolphin & Admiral Watson; which ships were finally dispatched from Cons. 22d Novr. Ingellee by Our Master Attendant on the 13th Ultimo.

2. We have yet rec'd no Advice of your outward bound Ships the Houghton Walpole or Earl Ashburnham being arrived in any part of India, which occasions us much uneasiness, lest any Accident should have befallen them from the French Squadron advised of in our last; If this or any other circumstances should happen to the two latter Ships to prevent their Arriving here so as to be dispatch'd home again within Charter party Time We shall be obliged to detain the two Ships they purpose sending us round from Bombay to dispatch in their Stead.

3. For these Reasons, & to comply with the earnest Demands of that Presidency for early Supplies of Salt Petre, We have embraced the offers of Freight tender'd us on Country ^{11th} & 15th Novr. Ships bound thither for forwarding them parcells of that Article; & We shall continue to compleat in same manner the full Supply promised them, rather than run the Risk, by returning them one of your own Ships, of dissappointing your Honors of a Bengal Cargo.

4. For the same Reasons instead of the Destination formerly made We have advertized for a freight Vessel to carry the Stores 6th Decr. indented for to Fort Marlbro'.

5. The Winchelsea We are advised arrived at Bombay the 18th of September and we expect will soon import with us, agreeable to her Destination.

6. At the time of the first Dispatch of the Godolphin in April last there were Sundry Persons order'd on Board, as Charter Party Passengers and the expence of their Passage Amounting to Crs. 6428-9-9 paid out of the Treasury; but when the Ship was again Dispatch'd in October, the Number of these Passengers were reduc'd, agreeable to the Amend'd List Transmitted in her additional Packet, and the Passage money of course Diminish'd to CRs. 2485-11-3. Captain Roddam however having Neglected to repay the Difference before his Departure, We now forward an acct. Current thereof in this Packet, that Your Honors may Demand the Same of him in England.

7. The several Ships of this Season having come out without any Kint-ladge, Your Honors will Observe that the Captains have Respectively made Demand for certain Quantities of Salt Petre to enable them to shift their ships, the same we have Necessarily been Oblig'd to comply with, but took care to intimate to them that such Goods remain'd on Board at the Owners Risk till such time as orders were sent them to receive Your Cargo for Europe, and Copies of their Letters with the Secretary's Answers, we shall send the Packets of the Respective Ships for your Honors Observation;

8. By Letters from Madrass of the 3rd & 4th Ultimo, we are advis'd that his Majesty's ship Medway (Captain Tinker) in her Passage round Ceylon on the 23rd. of Septr. fell in with the French Squadron mentioned in our Last; That it then consisted of two ships of the Line, one of Fifty Guns, & a Frigate; and that in attempting to bring to the Fifty Gun Ship, the Medway receiv'd a broad side from her-Captain Tinker in the Medway, with the Chatham and York under his Command Sail'd again from Madrass Road in quest of them on the 4th. of Octr. and we are hopefull before this time, has either reduced or Dispersed them, as to prevent them being any further annoyance to our Trade.

9. Agreeable to what we wrote in our last, we summond M. Delaporte to
 Cons. the Board, and desir'd he wou'd inform us in what
 18 Octr. branch of the Investment he cou'd be of most Service to our Employers; In Answer to which he acquainted us that he imagined he cou'd [be] under his Endeavours Successfull in regulating the provision and Packing of the Different Sorts of Mulmuls and in giving some Directions regarding the Silk piece-Goods Investment : We therefore appointed him to
 29 Novr. proceed to Dacca, taking Cosimbuzar in his way, and wrote by him to the Gentlemen at these Factories, Strenuously enjoining them to concur with Mr. Delaporte in forwarding any Improvements in the Investment which he might recommend.

10. In answer to the Directions which we sent to Cosimbuzar for providing
 18 Octr. five Chests of Taffaties in their natural Colours; The Gentlemen there have wrote us that it will be impossible to comply with these orders; as the Silk with which Taffaties are made, after the Gum is washed out of it, is naturally white, and to
 1st Novr. weave it with Gum in, they imagine would be needless, as the cloth would then be of a Different Fabric from Taffaties; In reply to this advice we referred them for further Directions and
 4th Novr. Explanations to M. Delaporte, when he should arrive with them and in the Interim desired they would send us down five Chests of Corah wove in the natural Colour.

11. In the Admiral Watson's Packet, we Transmitted your Honors, Copy of a Letter deliver'd in by the Surgeon just before the Packet was closed, containing a Report of the Medicines and Medicinal
 4 Novr. Instruments receiv'd by the Ships of this season; We must again beg leave to refer your Honors to our Consultation of the 4th. of November for a Second perusal of this Letter, also to recommend to your Consideration the giving they[sic] necessary Directions to prevent such Accidents happening in future as these are Articles which we cannot Possibly be supply'd with in the Interval of Shipping.

12. When the President arriv'd at Moorshedabad he made some inquiry
 11 Novr. into the Ground of the Interruptions in the 49th. Para. of our last address, and found that those complain'd of

towards Dacca, Luckipour, and Chittigong were chiefly owing to the ill conduct, and bad Disposition of Mahomed Aly¹, the Nabob's Collector for that part of the Country; He therefore obtain'd from the Deputy Governor at Moorshedabad, orders to the said Collector, warning him of the bad consequences of such conduct, and forbidding him to molest the Business of Factories in future. These orders the President transmitted to us and we forwarded them immediately to Dacca, And we have the pleasure to learn from thence that the Disturbances in these parts are partly Subsided.

13. The whole matters [*sic*] of complaints on this Subject of Interruptions
 Cons. we have recommended to the President's particular
 15 Nov. attention, and we continue to transmit him every paper which comes to hand from the Factories relative thereto; we therefore make no doubt when he arrives with the Nabob, of his being able entirely to remove them, and Settle a Solid Plan for the future Safety and freedom of our Trade.

14. The Reverend Mr. Samuel Stavely having deceas'd of a Fever the 26
 4 Nov. October, we have appointed the Reverend Mr. William Parry Chaplain of his Majestys 84th Regiment to fill the Vacancy occasioned thereby and as he is a Gentleman who bears in every Respect a proper Character, We beg leave to recommend him to Your Honors for Confirmation therein.

15. In consequence of your orders relative to the Servants of the West
 15 July Coast Establishment we summoned Mr. Parker Hatley
 1st Nov. to attend the Board and acquaint us whether he intended to proceed to his station at Fort Marlbro; A severe Fever prevented his obeying this summons and when he recover'd, he requested our permission to continue in Bengal, for Reasons set forth in a Letter which is entered after our Consultation of the 1st November; these Reasons being esteemed sufficient by the Members of the Board, Leave was granted him to remain accordingly. We hope your Honours will consider them in the same light and that Mr. Hatley will not incur your Displeasure in this step.

16. In advising of the Military Promotions in the 75th Para. of our last
 14 Aug. address we omitted to insert the appointment of Cornet D. Ellazarte to be second Lieutenant of the Troop of Hussars, and William Winchells to be Cornet of the same troop.

17. Since our last have deceased on our Military List Captain John Mathews, Lieutt. Mackclean Lieutt. Fireworker of Artillery John Beale.

18. We cannot observe the great decrease of your Military this Season by Death and Sickness without once more representing it to your Honors Consideration in the most strenuous manner; your European Troops on this Establishment shou'd never be under the number of fifteen hundred, to secure effectually the safety of the Settlement, the Quiet of the Provinces, and the collection of your revenues; We must therefore hope that you will not neglect sending us

in future such annual Supplies as to render us assured of having always the abovemention'd number fit for Service.

19. The General Books of this Presidency ending April 1758 are now forwarded and we hope to be able to transmit those ending April 1759 and April 1760 by the following Ships of the year. The great Scarcity of Assistants occasion'd by a very Sickly Season is the reason for this Business, as well as the Business in General having been so much retarded.

20. On this Ship the Tilbury we have sent home 11 French Officers and 20 Private Prisoners of War, agreeable to the List enclos'd in her Packet.

21. We have laden and consign'd to your Honors on her Sundry Goods and Merchandize amounting to CR. 7,07,600 as p. Invoice and first Bill of Lading enclos'd.

22. We have likewise laden on her Sundry Stores for the use of the Island of St. Helena amounting to CR. 1242-9-6 as p. Invoice and Bill of Lading enclos'd to the[m.]. We wish the Ship a Safe and Speedy Passage and are

Fort William

Decr. 13th 1762

May it Please your Honors
Your faithful Humble Servants

P. Amyatt/W. Hay/H. Watts

Postscript

23. We have drawn upon your Honours by this Ship the Tilbury 30 setts of Bills of exchange payable at two Shillings and four pence p current Rupee, and ninety Days after Sight amounting to CR 5,4165-6-6 or £s 6319-6 as follows :

Setts	To whom granted	To whom Payable	Cr.	£	Strg	S	D
1	Mr. Fitz Owen Jones acct. to Wm. [Billros?] Esqr.	Thos. Walker Esqr.	7000	0	0	816	13 4
1	Mr. Ascanius William Senior.	Robert Halsey Bald- rick Nassaw Senior Esqr. & Miss Rachael Senior.	1714	4	6	200	0 0
1	Messrs. Hugh Watts & Russell Skinner acct. Colonel Eyre Coote.	Colonel Eyre Coote or order	4285	11	6	500	0 0
1	To Mr. Fitz Owen Jones	Do.	4285	11	6	500	0 0
1	Mr. Thomas Woodward	Do.	4285	11	6	500	0 0
1	The Reverend Mr. Hirst	Do.	4285	11	6	500	0 0
1	Mr. Russel Skinner	to Mr. Joseph Skinner	257	2	3	30	0 0
1	Anselm Beaumont	to George Challoner Esqr.	4285	11	6	500	0 0
1	To Mr. Phillip Milner Dacres.	to Mrs. Elizabeth Howitt	857	2	3	100	0 0
1	To Mr. Fitz Owen Jones	to Thomas Walker Esqr.	4285	11	6	500	0 0

Setts	To whom granted	To whom Payable	Cr.	£Strg S D
1	To Mr. William Majendie	to W. Samuel Rush	2142 13 6	250 0 0
1	To Peter Amyatt Esqr.	to Thomas Holmes Esqr.	888 0 0	103 19 0
1	To Do, acct. Capt. Thos. Fenwick.	to Miss Francis & John Durvell	1714 4 6	200 0 0
1	To Captain William Sutherland	to Mr. Benjamin Sutherland	171 7 0	20 0 0
1	To his Grace the Duke of Richmond	to Lieut. Powel	171 7 0	20 0 0
1	To Mr. William Magee	to Mr. James Rannie	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Mr. Robt. Gregory, acct. of Mr. Fran. Charlton	to Joseph Hickey Esqr.	428 9 0	50 0 0
1	To Do, acct. Mr. Saml. Middleton	to Henry Hastings Esqr.	2571 6 9	300 0 0
1	To Mr. Robert Gregory	to Mr. Croasdiel Shaw	428 9 0	50 0 0
1	To Mr. Charles Child	to John Mills	650 0 0	75 16 8
1	To Mr. Joseph Hare	to Mr. John Guiltor	1000 0 0	116 13 4
1	To Mr. David Crichton Junr.	to George Clive Esqr.	530 5 9	61 17 6
1	To Peter Amyatt Esqr.	to John Burgess Esqr	1659 14 6	193 13 2
1	To Ensign William Stewart	to Mr. Jas. Cooper	171 7 0	20 0 0
1	To Messrs. Tysoe Saul Hancock and Russell Skinner, acct. Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft	to Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft	1714 4 6	200 0 0
1	To Mr. Joseph Gethin	to St. Joseph St. Thos. Hankye & Co.	137 2 3	16 0 0
1	To Capt. Joseph Price	to Mr. Jas. Potter	1071 7 0	125 0 0
1	To Do.	to Mr. Thomas Price Senr.	428 9 0	50 0 0
1	To Charles Child acct. Lieutenant Paul Nedrick	to Mrs. Isabel Nedrick	1714 4 6	200 0 0
1	To Do.	to Mrs. Thomas Mackie	171 7 0	20 0 0

24. We have likewise drawn upon your Honours 49 setts of Bills of exchange payable at 2 Shillings and four pence p. Current Rupee, and three Hundred and Sixty five Days after Sight Interest to commence thereon at the expiration of ninety Days, at the rate of 4 p. Cent. p. Annum for the remainder of the time The amount of the said Bills being, CR 13,37,085-10-2 or £St 155,993 5-4½ as follows—

	To whom granted	To whom payable	Cr.	£Strg S D
1	Mr. Anselm Beaumont acct. Stanlake Batson Esqr.	To James and Edwards Batson Esqrs.	188571 7 0	22000 0 0
1	Mr. Anselm Beaumont	To George Challoner Esqr.	26000 0 0	3033 6 8
1	Mr. Anselm Beaumont, being the proceeds of a Chest of Coral Beads mark'd D F B No. 6 imported by ship Hawke 1761.	To Jacob Moseh & Raphael Franco	9128 12 6	1066 3 10½

Setts	To whom granted	To whom Payable	Cr.	£	Strg	S	D
1	Mr. Anselm Beaumont, being the proceeds of Chest of Coral Beads mark'd I N No. 28 imported by ship Norfolk 1762	To Benj. Mendez Dacosta or order on acct. Hananel Mendez Dacosta	4231	7	0	493	12 5
1	Fitz Owen Jones Acct. Wm. Billers Esqrs.	To Thomas Walker Esqr.	10314	4	9	1203	6 8½
1	To Peter Amyatt Esqr.	To William Watts Esqr.	20034	6	9	2337	6 11½
1	To Do.	To William Fullerton Esqr.	28974	1	3	3380	6 9
1	To Mr. George Vansittart	To the Right Hon'ble Robert Ld. Clive	116031	5	3	13596	19 9½
1	To Do. acct. George Pigot Esqr.	Alexander & Abraham Hume Esqrs. or either of their orders	8725	10	6	1017	19 10½
1	To Do. acct. James Alexander	Josias Dupre & Wm. Alexander Esqrs. or order	4000	0	0	4666	13 4
1	To Do.	To Do. & Do.	3000	0	0	3500	0 0
1	To Do.	To Do. & Do.	18740	0	0	2186	6 8½
1	To Do.	To Do. & Do.	22588	6	9	2635	6 3
1	To Do. Do. acct. Josias Dupre Esqr.	Messrs. George Higginson & Charles [Ducane?] or either of their orders	40000	0	0	4666	13 4
1	To Do.	To Do. & Do	35000	0	0	4083	5 8
1	To Do.	To Do. & Do.	30000	0	0	3500	0 0
1	To Do.	To Do. & Do.	20004	0	0	2333	16 0
1	To Henry Vansittart Esqr.	To Luke Scrafton Esqr.	7066	5	3	824	8 1
1	To Do.	To Do.	20000	0	0	2333	6 8
1	To Do.	To Do.	21866	13	0	2551	2 6½
1	To Do.	To Do.	11711	3	0	1366	6 1½
1	To Do.	To Samuel Walker Esqr.	10942	9	0	1276	12 7½
1	To Do.	To Do.	13641	4	0	1591	9 7
1	To Do. on acct. the Estate of Major Kilpartick Deceas'd	To John Walsh and Thomas Maunsell Esqrs Executors	126928	14	1	14808	7 5
1	Henry Vansittart Esqr.	To the Right Hon'ble Robt. Ld. Clive	57000	0	0	6650	0 0
1	To Do.	To Alexander and Abraham Hume Esqrs.	17394	14	8	2029	8 3½
1	To Do.	To Messrs. Drake & Long	857	2	3	100	0 0
1	To Do.	To William Walker Esqr.	428	9	0	50	0 0
1	To Do.	To Messrs. Gompertz & Heyman	1612	5	3	188	2 1
1	To Tysoc Saul Hancock Esqr.	To Doctor Edmund Tew Rector of Baldon	3415	11	3	398	10 1½
1	To Do. Acct. the estate of Capt. Willowby Merchant	To Mr. Thomas Brown	12704	0	0	1482	2 8
1	To Mr. Robert Gregory	To Edward Holden Cru-ttenden Esqr.	44000	0	0	5133	6 8
1	To Do. Acct. Charles Stafford Playdell Esqr.	To John Zeph : Holwell Esqr.	32003	14	0	3733	15 9½
1	To Mr. Robert Gregory	To George Clive Esqr.	20710	0	0	2416	3 4
1	To Do.	To Richd. Smith Esqr.	25298	8	3	2951	9 10½

Setts	To whom granted	To whom Payable	Gr.	£	Strg	S.	D.
1	To Mr. Robert Gregory	To Joseph Smith Esqr.	6887	2	3	803	10 0
1	To Do.	To Mr. Casperus Desong	53098	5	0	6194	16 1½
1	To Henry Vansittart Esqr.	To Robert Orme Esqr. and in case of his death to Jos Godfrey & Wil- liam Smyth King Esqrs.	51259	0	0	5980	4 4
1	To Messrs. Robt. Gregory & John Woollaston	To Messrs. Manningham & Frankland	8492	13	3	990	16 7
1	To Do.	To Richard Becher Esqr.	13167	2	3	1536	3 4
1	To Do.	To William Brightwell Sumner Esqr.	62546	2	9	7297	1 0
1	To Do.	To Charles Manningham Esqr.	7045	10	3	821	19 10
1	To Messrs. Tysoe Saul Han- cock Robt. Gregory & John Woollaston	To Culling Smith Esqr.	16038	4	6	1871	2 8
1	To Messrs. Robt. Gregory & John Woollaston Acct. Elizabeth Beard.	To Richd. Benyan Esqr. & Mrs. Eliz. Beard	1725	9	0	201	6 3½
1	To Henry Vansittart Esqr. in full for 1 Chest of E Coral mark'd B S No. 8. imported p. ship Nor- folk 1762	To Joseph Salvador	2792	7	0	325	15 8½
1	To Do. Do. marked* No. 1, im- ported P. ship Chesterfield 1762	To Do. Do.	3378	0	0	394	2 0
1	To Mr. Robt. Gregory & Capt. Fran. [Cozens?] Trustees to the Estate of Capt. Jno. Matthews	To Messrs. Thos. & John Burgoine Executr.	5142	13	9	600	0 0
1	To Mr. William Magee Acct. the Estate of Capt. Lawrence Withirington	To Mr. John Withiring- ton	18925	2	6	2207	18 8
1	To William Hay Esqr.	To Lieutenant Charles Blomer	10651	1	9	1242	12 7

We are May it Please Your Honors,
Your Faithfull Humble Servants

Peter Amyatt/William Hay/Hugh Watts.

2d Post[s]cript

We have this Morning receiv'd advice by a Letter from Capt. Rogers of the safe Arrival of your Ship Houghton in Ballasore roads the 4 Instant, and are in hourly expectation of hearing that She is come to her moorings at Culpee. The Capt. further informs us that he left Madeira the 6th of June and had a tolerable passage as far as the Latt. of 2 No. and about 100 Leagues West of Atcheen, but being there becalm'd near fourteen Days, in which

*For the trade symbol used here see chart facing p. 202, *Fort William—India House Correspondence*, Vol. II.

time many of his people fell down with the Scurvy, he thought best to put into Atcheen for Refreshment, where he arrived the 5th of Novr. and sailed again the 15th.

Original transmitted

P. Tilbury

Dup. P. Drake

Trip. P. Hardwicke

We are May it Please your Honours,

Your Faithfull Humble Serts.

Peter Amyatt/William Hay/Hugh Watts.

33

LETTER DATED 18 DECEMBER 1762

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies:

May it please your Honours

The Chowkey boat Just arriv'd having brought us advice of the Arrival of your ship the Earl of Ashburnham in Ballasore roads we could not let slip an Opportunity of conveying you the news thereof and therefore & dispatch this short letter for that purpose down to the Ship Tilbury.

Fort William,
18th Decemr 1762.

Original Transmitted

P. Tilbury

Dup. P. Drake

Trip. P. Hardwicke

We are May it Please your Honours,
Your Faithfull Humble Servants,

Peter Amyatt/William Hay/Hugh Watts.

34

LETTER DATED 14 FEBRUARY 1763

Activities of the French squadron near Balasore—precautions against naval attack—capture of Manila—financial position of Bengal government—settlement with the Dutch re. saltpetre proposed—conflict between the Company and Mir Qasim about private inland trade—differences among members of Board—proposal to fortify Chittagong—difficulties in circulation of Calcutta sikka—cartel with the French.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it Please Your Honors,

1. We addressed you by your Ship Tilbury the 13th & 18th Decemr. and the said Ship receiv'd her dispatches at Ingelee the [.....] of the same month.

2. The last address was only to advise you of the Arrival of the Earl of Ashburnham, as we had that of the Houghton in the Postscript
Cons. 3 Jany. of the former; by those Ships we receiv'd your commands of the 2nd, 8th & 21st of April 1762.

3. The 11th of January we received Intelligence from the Mate of a Country Vessel that three French Ships of War, the Vengeur of 64 guns, Conde of 50, and the Fidelle Frigate we[re] cruising in Ballasore road, that they had been in that Station for some Days, and had taken the Grampus Pilot Sloop, and two Country Vessells bound from hence to Madras, the Nancy, Thos. Wintle, and Speedwell, William Ramsey, and that in their former Station off Ceylon, they had taken your Ship Walpole from Europe the 20th of September, and sent her to Mauritius; This is the same Squadron advis'd of in our Letters of the 30th Oct. & 13th Decemr. last.

4. It was the Mate of the before mentioned Snow Speedwell that made his Escape in a Boat, and brought us this Intelligence, and thereby render'd a very material Service to the Company and to this Settlement in general, for a great number of Vessells were ready to proceed on their Voyages, and the Drake and Hardwicke were under Dispatch for Europe.

5. We therefore ordered him a reward on your behalf as appears on Consultation of the 10th Instant, and a handsome present was made him by a Subscription from the Gentlemen of the Town. We immediately on receipt of this news, order'd all the commanders to go down to their Ships, and the whole to be Assembled at Kedgerree, under the Direction of Capt. Nathal. Smith the oldest Commander and having fitted and Mann'd the Sea Horse Sloop, we sent her down under the direction of Capt. Wedderburne, who offered his Service on this occasion to cruize below Ingelee as far as he Safely cou'd, in order to get further intelligence of the Enemy & give timely notice in case they should attempt to come into the River; at the same time we wrote to the President and Council of Fort St. George and to Admiral Cornish, both by the Sea and land and Dispatch'd another Copy to Chittigong to be forwarded from thence, and we likewise dispatch'd a sloop to endeavour to pass the French Ships and Station herself to the Southward of Point Palmiras to give advice of them to any English Ships that might be coming this way; and another small Vessel we Directed from Chittigong for the same purpose.

6. These precautions being taken, we then Consulted with the Commanders of your Ships in the River, being five in Number, as well as our Master
20 Jany. Attendant and other experienc'd Mariners, upon the possibility of your fitting out a sufficient force to attack the Enemy, for as the Admiral might be late in returning from Manilha, or our

notice of the Enemy's station not reach him in time, for any Ships of the Squadron to arrive in Ballasore road, before it would be too late for your Ships to gain their Passage for Europe, we shou'd therefore have been willing upon a reasonable prospect of Success, to venture an Engagement with the Enemy's Ships, rather than risque the Disappointment of the Years Investment by the River being block'd up; but it appearing by the
 Cons. 27 Jany. report of the Captains that it wou'd require a very long time to fitt out the Ships with the Guns & ca requir'd, and nearly the whole number of our European Forces to Mann them in the manner propos'd, we found ourselves oblig'd to lay aside thoughts of our Attacking the Enemy, and wait in hopes that either their own Distresses or the appearance of our Squadron, wou'd oblige them to quit their Station before the Season was too far elapsed for our Ships to go out of the River.

7. The 28th of January we receiv'd advice from Captain Wedderburne of the Arrival of your Ship Boscawen in Ballasore road, and that he had sent a Pilot to her by the same boat that [gave him?] that
 31 Jany. advice. The Pilot got safe on board, and we had the
 3 Feby. Pleasure to hear that she arrived at Ingelee the 31st of said month having seen nothing of the Enemy; which must have been owing to their lying far to the Eastward, for the[y] were certainly in their Station at the time they Arrived in the road.

8. This we knew from the Prisoners taken in the Walpole, which the French Commodore (Mr. Pallier) sent in, partly by the Grampus, and partly by a Dutch Ship—with letters to the President mentioning
 27 & 31 Jany. that his reason for sending them in, was the Violence of the Scurvy with which the most of them were affected, adding that he did it upon condition that neither the Officers or Men shou'd serve against the French nation this War, or untill they should be exchanged: and the number receiv'd including Officers was 79 P list enclosed. The French Commodore wrote likewise that he sent 25 from Murguy to Madrass, and we understand that Captain Fenner with about 30 men were [*sic*] sent in the Walpole to Mauritius, that about 20 chiefly foreingners [*sic*] had enter'd with the French, and that about the same number died on board. The last division of Prisoners were sent from the Vengeur the 27th January, at which time all three Ships were lying in about 12 Fathom water off the mouth of the South Channel, but had taken no other Prizes than the beforementioned. By these Gentlemen we were informed that the French Cruizers came into that Station the 25th Decemr that four or five days after they gave chase to a Large Ship but cou'd not come up with her and which was Probably the Tilbury; and that on the 18th January they chas'd another large ship which they Perceiv'd to be an Indiaman, but only the Frigate coming up with her she was driven off and the English Ship proceeded to the South-ward, this we judge to be the Winchelsea which sail'd from Bombay in company with the Boscawen and we imagine that she is gone to Madrass.

9. We are Sorry to inform your Honors that on board the Nancy Snow Captain Wintle, the Enemy took the Houghtons Packet for Fort St. George owing to the Persons being shot who went to cut it away as it hung over-board—We are however Pleas'd to find that it contained no very material advices and they will receive Dups. of them in the Packet p Ashburnham that it can prove of no great Detriment.

10. Before the receipt of the Walpoles Prisoners; judging a part of them might be on board these Ships we desired the President to propose an exchange
 Cons. 20 Jany. to the French Commodore, as we have many French Prisoners here; a Boat which the President accordingly sent out for this purpose, having cruized the roads both to the Westward & Eastward beyond the Station where the French Ships lay returned to Ketch-
 heree the 3rd Inst. without being able to find them from which we imagin'd that the Sickly condition of the French Ships, or the fear of our Squadron had made them quit their Station, and in which Opinion we have been since confirmed by several Vessels arriving without seeing anything but particularly by the Plassey Schooner one of those built at Bombay for the service of this river fell in with two Ships the 31st Jany in the Latt. of 18/30 N, they were standing to the Southward, but on sight of the Schooner the small ship wore and chas'd her for five hours, but not coming up with her, returned to the Southward.

11. We have determin'd therefore to proceed in the dispatch of your Ships with the precaution of sending two or three Sloops at proper distances ahead, to give timely notice by signals if any of the enemys ships should yet be cruizing in the road off the Point.

12. We should have been under the necessity of returning the Houghton immediately to England had not another Ship come in to take on board the remains of our Investments, but on the Arrival of the
 3 Feby. Boscawen we appointed her for that purpose, and the Houghton to proceed to China according to her original destination.

13. We this [*sic*] despatch'd the Hardwicke and Drake directly for Europe; the Clinton to Madrass to be fill'd up from thence and the Houghton
 14 Feby. likewise to Madrass with the consignments he brought out for that Presidency, and the Stores for his Majesty's Squadron and land forces, as well as those receiv'd P Earl of Ashburnham. The consignment in your Invoice for Fort. St. George, by that, ship consisting chiefly of naval Stores, we have detain'd her, being much in want of them; The supplys intented for by the Gentlemen of Fort Marlbro, from this Presidency we send in the Clinton to Madrass, and recommend to the President and Council there, to forward them with the supplys requir'd from the coast in the Houghton, which may there receive a Cargo of pepper and proceed to China, our want of Tonnage inclin'd us to Dispatch the Houghton by this rout[er], rather than to send her immediately to China, as recommended by you, and by attempting which little wou'd have been gain'd as she was so exceeding late.

14. The Boscawen being an old Ship we purpose to dispatch the next for Europe and keep the Earl of Ashburnham for the last Ship, as she will be better able to bear with any bad weather she may be exposed to, by the lateness of the season. We cannot judge precisely when these two ships will be dispatched, as it depends upon the Arrival of the Saltpetre from Patna, it set out from thence near 20 days ago, but the Jelingee river in some places being entirely dry, much time will be lost in transporting it over the Shoals, we have however taken every precaution in our power to quicken its arrival by directing the Gentlemen at Cossimbuzar to be prepared to give all necessary Assistance.

15. By letters from the President and Council at Bombay, we are advised of the safe arrival there of your Ship the Hector and we are further advis'd from Madrass that the Britannia, Prince of Wales and Clive, imported likewise at Bombay the 10, 11 & 12 Novemr.

16. The Nancy Ketch belonging to the Company on the Fort Marlbro' establishment was dispatch'd from that place for Vizagapatam the 22d, Septemr. in order to be repair'd, but with Directions in case of missing that port, to proceed here, she [was] accordingly in this River the 7 Inst. and we have directed our master attendant to Survey her, and report whether she is capable of bearing the Alteration propos'd, and worth the expense, and we shall determine as may appear most for your Interest upon his report; but as in all cases she will be too late to go out of the River this Season, and the President and Council of Fort Marlbro', write Pressingly, for an immediate supply of Opium, we have determin'd to dispatch the Syren Snow directly thither with twenty five of the fifty Chests, we took the precaution of ordering last Season for this purpose; The Syren will be fill'd up with Rice and ten pipes of Madeira wine, half taken out of our own Stock and half from the consignment for Fort St. George by the Houghton.

17. In compliance with an indent we rec'd in August from Mr. Carter and the other Gentlemen of the West coast we order'd the Chief and Council and [sic] at Patna to provide one Hundred Chests for the service of that Presidency the ensuing season, and in consequence of what those Gentlemen have now wrote further, we have order'd an addition of fifty Chests more.

18. The Gentlemen of Chittigong having no other method of conveying the Intelligence of the French Cruizers to the Admiral and Fort St. George Presidency, purchas'd a Snow called the Gray Hound which was then lying at that Port ready for Sea, and the Price agreed by the owners was 18000 Duss Massa Rupees, as we have no further particular service for this Snow, we have recommended the Gentlemen at Fort St. George to send her to Fort Marlbro' for the use of that Presidency, where we are inform'd such Vessels are much wanted.

19. The Nancy Ketch calling at Mallacca found there your ship Osterly which having been dispatch'd from Manilha to China about the end of October, was oblig'd by hard weather to bear away, and it was Capt. Vincent's.

intention to proceed to Fort St. George; he brings the agreeable news of the Success of his Majesty's & the Company's forces against Manilha, which place was taken by Assault the 6th of October after a feeble resistance of 12 days; since the above we have been inform'd by private advices from Fort St. George that the Osterly imported there the 6th. of January.

20. The President and Council of Fort St. George having requested of us to supply them with Silver for the China trade acquainting us at the same time they are Sufficiently in Cash to answer any drafts we may make on them in Pagodas; and the Gentlemen of Bombay having requested our Permission to draw on us further, notwithstanding they have already exceeded by three or four Lacks, the sum we Stipulated for their drafts last year free of the condition of our having the choice of paying them in ready money or in Bonds, we therefore in order to assist the demands of the Companys Service in all parts as far as our own occasions will adm't, caus'd calculates to be brought of the Disbursements of this Presidency, Civil and Military, as well as the necessary advancements for our Investment; that the amount of these being compar'd with our revenues and other receipts, we might appropriate as much as cou'd be spared for the Service of China and Bombay.

Cons
31 Jany.

21. These calculates are enter'd in our consultation of the 31 Ultimo and it appears that our military expences by the Commissary General military paymaster and military storekeeper amount to about thirty Lacks of Rupees p. Annum. The Fortifications Marine and other expences of the Presidency, about ten Lacks, and for our investment we compute forty Lacks, Total of Disbursements, eighty Lacks, on the other hand our revenues amount to Sixty Lacks, and we compute our receipts in the import warehouse and Custom house, nine and half Lacks, and the money paid in on Bills on your Honors, Twenty Lacks.

22. Upon this calculation we determined to send five Lacks to Madrass to be forwarded to China, and we have divided the risque between the Clinton and the Houghton. We have agreed likewise to assist Bombay with a further Supply of five Lacks, but as the largest part of our revenues comes in that [the] latter part of the year, and the advancement for our investment must be made in the early months, we have desir'd the President and Council to draw upon us only on condition, that it shall be in our option to pay in ready money or in Bonds which bonds will always be receiv'd in our Treasury in Payment for Bills of exchange on England, We shall take what money may be offer'd us for Bills on Madrass payable in Pagodas, but of these we judge the amount will be very small.

23. The great amount of the military expences has at all times engaged our most serious attention, and we have made what reduction we could in the Article of ~~Batta~~, and other Contingent Charges, we have now again appointed a special Council to be held by the Assistance of Major Adams and Major

Carnac, for taking this Essential Branch under consideration, and making what further reduction may seem Possible; our Seapoys only being in number eight thousand, cost near ten Lacks a year, and we do not find we can spare any unless the number of Europeans is increas'd and Kept up.

24. We apprehend great difficulty in dispatching your Ships to England next season by the want of Saltpetre since you have been pleas'd to relinquish your exclusive Parwannah, and grant leave to the Dutch to purchase as they please, but to prevent this farm falling again into the Country Government who might upon our relinquishing it, let it out to a Moor's merchant as formerly; and to obviate as much as in our power the certain bad consequences which would attend a Struggle and Opposition, by different agents and Gomasters [gomastahs], we have propos'd in a letter we wrote to the Directore and Council at Chinsura to give them notice of this instance of your regard to their interest, that the purchase of Saltpetre shall still be carried by us, under the Sanction of the same Pervannah, and without taking any notice to the Nabob of this [his] orders, and they receive a certain proportion of the quantity provided, adding that they doubted not they wou'd regulate the proportions, in such a reasonable manner, as might be consistent with the circumstances of our respective Nations. This Their Directore being indisposed, has prevented as yet any Answer to this proposal, but we think they cannot but be sensible of the advantage of such an accommodation as we have recommended.

25. The President while at Patna accommodated the disputes between the Dutch and English Factories, concerning the Opium Trade to the Satisfaction of both Parties.

26. The news of the French Cruizers in Ballasore road, reaching the President at Muxadabad on his return from Mungeer, he made the best of his way to Calcutta and arrived the 18th Ultimo.

27. By his letter to the Board of the 15th of Decemr. you will be informed that according to the latest advices from the N. ward there was no appearance of any attempts to disturb the tranquility of these Provinces; Shaw Aulum and Shuja Dowla seeming to be chiefly intent upon preserving and regulating the conquests they made last year upon the Morattas¹, and that upon discoursing with the Nabob concerning the Assistance of Forces they had apply'd for to him and us, he seem'd no ways inclin'd to comply with that Application, giving it as his opinion it was a very uncertain contest, and wou'd be attended with a great and useless expence. On our part also we are far from desiring to engage in any such distant enterprize, nor will the state of our force at present admit of it; all we wish is to preserve the tranquillity of Bengall.

28. The President having laid before the Nabob the complaints of the Gentlemen of Chittigong, Dacca, and Luckipore, concerning the stoppage of several of their Boats, at different Chokeys, also receiv'd from him a multitude of Complain[ts] from his Officers in several parts of the Country, against

the English Gomastahs, but particularly those at Rungpou, Sillet, Rangamutty, and other distant parts of the country, employ'd chiefly in the trade of salt, Tobacco, Bettlenut, and some few other Articles of inland trade which he urg'd we were restrain'd from before the Troubles. The Nabob enlarg'd much upon the Detriment his Revenues Suffered by the Authority exercised by our Gomastahs in carrying on this trade in those distant parts, where we had no Government to restrain them, and his was too weak to do it, urging finally that he thought we had no right to deal in those Articles.

29. The President and Mr. Hastings being of Opinion that the trade in such Articles ought not to be carried on, to the Prejudice of the Revenues of the country Government, and that rules should be laid down for the conduct of our Gomastahs, and the officers of the Government respectively, propos'd to the Nabob Articles for this purpose, as contained in their letter to the Board of the 15 Decemr. the Nabob declin'd binding himself by these Articles, but represented again in a Letter to the President just before his departure from Mungeer the Grievances before mentioned, and the President wrote him an Answer, concerning the regulations before propos'd and some other Articles, and Assuring him that the inland trade should be carried on upon that footing only and our Gomastahs subjected in the manner therein mention'd to the officers of the Government. The rest of the Gentlemen of the Council at Calcutta did not approve of the Articles propos'd in the Letter before mention'd from the President and Mr. Hastings, nor of the President's Letter to the Nabob

which had been transmitted them from the Factory
 Cons. at Dacca and determined therefore to Call all the
 17th Jany. Members of the Board to Calcutta excepting those
 at Patna and Chittigong whose great distance would make it inconvenient that they might reconsider this Affair—Certain it is the Officers of the Country Government have made a very ill use of the Concessions made in their favor, and the Restraints laid upon our Agents and Gomastahs, as they have in many places stopped our Trade entirely and grossly insulted our Agents and Gomastahs—The Members of the Board call'd down on this occasion being arrived we shall take this Affair into Consideration tomorrow, and lay down such Rules for carrying on the Inland Trade and for the Conduct of our Gomastahs towards the Country Government as shall appear most equitable and expedient for removing the Grievances of both parties, and in the mean time the President has represented strongly to the Nabob the insolence of his Officers and told him that till full and sufficient regulations are agreed on, our trade in any Articles must not be interrupted and if any Attempts are made to the Contrary we shall make use of our own force to remove all such Obstructions.

30. The Gentlemen at Dacca having remark'd to Us in their Letter of the 11th of December that the Cossajura Dooreas which are annually order'd for flowering at their Factory, turn out in general far inferior in Quality to those which are manufactur'd with them, We beg leave to referr to your Honors their Observations on that head for your Consideration & Orders.

31. We have order'd an Investment to be made this Year at Chittagong, agreeable to a List made out by the Export Warehouse keeper and approved by the Board, and of which a Copy is entered after our Consultation, of the 31st January.

32. The Appearance of these French Cruizers in the Bay, and the want and defenceless State of Chittagong led us to consider the fortifying of that Factory, as it is likely to become a Settlement of great Advantage to the Company; We have, therefore, wrote to the Gentlemen there for their Sentiments on this Head, and we shall be glad to know how far Your Honors will approve of our fortifying it.

33. Finding by the Presidents Letter from Moorshedabad, that the Complaints which prevail thro'out the Country about the Calcutta Siccaes arise chiefly from the custom of Re-stamping, which, as it draws the Rupee broader and thinner and leaves the Stamp less perfect, occasions their being easily distinguished from the Rupees struck at Moorshedabad, We therefore determined to abolish the Method of Restamping and Resolved instead of it [to] Re-coin in our Mint all Rupees of the Sicca Standard at the rate of 2½p Cent; whereby the same Advantage will accrue to the Company and the Currency of the Siccaes, We hope will be established. Our proceedings on this Subject are enter'd on Consultation of the 31st January.

34. We advised you in our last of having Ordered Mr. Claude De laporte to Cossimbuzar and Dacca. On his Arrival at the former place he wrote us a Letter setting forth the insufficiency of his Stipend to defray his necessary Charges which Letter is enter'd after our Consultation of the 27th December. The same We beg leave to referr to your Honors agreeable to Mr. Delaporte's request, and because We must needs say that we think his Representation a just one.

35. Having been disappointed in our Design of accomplishing an Exchange of Prisoners with Monsr. Palliere whilst he lay in the Road, We took that Subject under Consideration in Consultation the 7 Inst. and resolved to send to the Islands an equal Number of French Prisoners with those taken on the Walpole, agreeable to Monsr. Pallier's Request and that we might rid you of the monthly Expence of their Maintenance here. We have accordingly advertized for a Vessell to freight as a Cartel Ship for this service and if any one offers We shall dispatch her thither.

36. It is necessary that We should here make mention of the Service which has been render'd the Company by Capt. Henry Wedderburn during his Cruize in the Seahorse Sloop; To his Assiduity is chiefly to be attributed the safe Arrival of your Ship the Boscawen and his Vigilance at all other periods was equally to be commended. We therefore thought him justly entitled to the thanks of the Board and a Promise of being recommended to your Honors in a proper light; and We accordingly embrace this Opportunity of pointing him out to you as a very fit Person to succeed Capt. Scott in the Post of Master Attendant, Capt. Keble not being arrived.

37. Neither can we in Justice omit recommending to your Particular favor and Countenance Mr. Cameron, who has for these two Years past been employed in the Office of Survey at this Presidency. In this Capacity he has been engaged in making a Survey of your Lands in the Calcutta Purgunnas, And has in part executed the same with great Gare and Exactness, much pains and Trouble; For the particulars of his Observations in the course of the Survey, We referr you to the Proceedings of the Committee of New Lands. And as We are well assured of this Gentleman's Abilities and Knowledge in the Engineering and Artillery Branches We cannot but point him out as a Person who may be very useful to the Company in conducting either, and otherwise deserving of your Notice.

38. Mr. William Bodle departed this Life of a fever the 25th of December, and there has Deceased on your Military List since
 Cons. our Last 2nd Lt. of Artillery A. Decker and Ensigns
 27th Decr. John Haynes and William Lander.

39. Those Deaths with some advised in the Tilbury's Letter having occasioned several Vacancies in the Military The President has made the following promotions Vizt. Lt. Fireworker Wm. Hays
 3rd Feby. to be 2nd Lt. and Marsom Reed to [be] a Lt. Fireworker of the Artillery and Robert Davidson, Caesar Flaction, George Thomas and John James Prichard who came out this Year Cadets to be Ensigns in the Battalion.

40. We also granted Commissions to Captains Robert Campbell and Francis Flaction on their Arrival agreeable to Your Orders; and we beg leave to referr you for a View of the whole Promotions
 27th Decr. of the last Year, to a Register form'd by the Secretary which goes in the Book packet p Ship Drake another Copy shall go by the Latter Ship continued down to that Time and We shall order a like Register to be transmitted you Annually in Duplicate.

41. We have laden and consign'd to your Honors on these ships the Drake & Hardwicke sundry Goods and Merchandize Amountg. to CRs. 13,47,400 their proportions whereof are conformable to their Respective Invoices & first Bills of Lading enclosed in their several Packets.

42. We have also laden on them Sundry Stores for the use of the Island of St. Helena Amotg. in all to CRs. 2,415-14-[6] agreeable to the Invoices and Bills of Lading enclosed to them.

43. We have already had Occasion to make favourable Mention of Mr. Graham in our Address of the 30th October 1762 in Respect of his Care in the Management and Collection of the Burdwan Revenues. We must now do him the Justice to acquaint your Honors further that We have great Reason to commend his Capacity and Diligence in the Employment

of Sub Secretary, the whole Business of the Office having been carried on by him to our entire Satisfaction since the Secretary Mr. Williamson's Indisposition, which has been of several Months Standing.

We are

May it please your Honors
Your faithful humble Servants

Fort William
the 14th Feb. 1763

H. V. S./P. A./S. B./W. B./J. C.
W. H./J. J./W. H./R. M./H. W.

In the Draft of this Letter prepared by the President after the 29th Paragraph stood the following, which not being agreeable to the Sense of the Majority of the Board, was by the Order expunged but the President desired it might be added here as a Reference from himself.

We are sorry to say that the Differences of Opinion which have arisen on this Subject, have been conducted as in some former Instances with too much Warmth, and that Reflections or injurious Expressions have again found a Place in our Records—Your Honors will find the Particulars of all that has past on this Subject in our Consultation of the 1st Instant, when we gave them a fresh Reading at the Board We referr the whole to your Consideration and Justice and hope to have your Orders upon such Points as require it, for our future Guidance.

Henry Van Sittart

Postscript

We have drawn upon your Honors by these Ships 72 Setts of Bills of Exchange at 365 Days and the usual Terms, the Particulars whereof are as follows—and Amount in all to CRs. 3,78,774-5-3 or £S44,190-2-10.

At 365 Days

Setts]	To Whom Granted	To Whom Payable	CRs.	£Strg.
1	To Mr. Charles Child acct. Capt. Lauchlin Mc. Lean Senr.	To Capt. Lauchlin Mc. Lean Senr. or Order	16400 0 0	1913 6 8
1	To Henry Van Sittart Esq. in full for 1 Chest of Coral Beads SS No. 1 F Imported p Ship Norfolk 1762.	To Mr. Joseph Salvadore	3869 4 6	451 8 3½
1	To Do. Do. Do. in full for 1 Chest of Do. SS No. 2 Imported F p Ship Chesterfield 1762	To Do. Do.	2767 1 3	322 16 6
1	To Do. Do. Do. in full 1 Chest of Do. LL No. 2 F Imported p Ship Nor- folk 1762.	To Mr. Judah Supino	1347 2 0	157 3 3½
1	To Do. Do. Do.	To Mr. John Burns	8635 9 0	1007 9 7½

At 365 Days

Setts	To Whom Granted	To Whom Payable	C.Rs.	£ Strg.
1	To Messrs. H. Watts & R. Skinner	To Colonel Eyre Coote	11467 5 9	1337 17 1½
1	To Hugh Watts Esqr.	To William Hackett Esqr.	700 4 0	81 13 11
1	To Stanlake Batson Esqr.	To James & Edward Buchley Batson Esqrs.	40000 0 0	4666 13 4½
1	To Mr. A. Beaumont being the Proceeds of 1 Chest of Coral Beads Marked GGB No. 13 Imported p Ship Worcester 1759	To George Challoner Esqr.	9457 14 0	1103 8 4
1	To Mr. John Wollaston	To John Smith Esqr.	4285 14 6	500 0 0
1	To Mr. James Siley	To Mrs. Lora Siley	15428 9 6	1800 0 0
1	To Mr. Robt. Halsey Boldrick	To Himself	4285 11 6	500 0 0
1	To Capt. Wm. Rogers	To Sr. James Hodges	17142 14 0	2000 0 0
1	To Mr. Fitz Owen Jones acct. William Billers Esqr.	To Thomas Walker Esqr.	5399 15 9	629 19 11½
1	To Do. Do. Do.	To Samuel Rush Esqr.	1714 4 6	200 0 0
1	To Capt. Joseph Price	To James Potter	1114 4 3	130 0 0
1	To Thos. Rumbold Esqr.	To Mrs. Frances Southby	2400 0 0	280 0 0
1	To Mr. Samuel Middleton	To Henry Hastings Esqr.	3428 9 0	400 0 0
1	To Do. Do. Do.	To Mr. James Turney Acct. the Estate of Mr. Francis Vassmer Dece'd.	546 8 0	63 15 2
1	To Capt. Randfurlic Knox	To Mr. John Forster	1714 4 6	200 0 0
1	To Capt. Alexander Scott	To Capt. Jonathan Ranson & Mr. Gabriel Snodgrass	2571 6 9	300 0 0
1	To Mr. Clement Crooke Acct. Mr. John Davidson	To Mr. Henry Davidson Acct. Mr. Robert Davidson.	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Mr. Phillip Milner Dacres	To John Henry Martins Esqr.	1263 0 0	147 7 8
1	To Ditto	To Mr. John Haskins	819 5 0	95 11 8½
1	To Mr. Henry Plowman	To Mr. Edward Ironside	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Mr. Sutton Banks	To William Waller Esqr.	171 6 9	20 0 0
1	To Messrs. Robt. Gregory & John Wollaston	To Wm. Brightwell Sumner Esqr.	8512 9 6	993 2 8
1	To D. & Do. Do. Acct. Miss Elizth. Massey	To Richard Bechar Esqr.	430 1 3	50 3 6
1	To Robert Gregory Esqr.	To Theodorus Bisdorn & Sons	6761 13 9	788 17 7½
1	To Mr. John Johnstone	To Mr. Andrew Johnstone.	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Mr. Edwd. Handle Adminr. to John Sturgeon	To Mrs. Margaret Sturgeon.	4236 12 0	566 5 9
1	To Mr. George Williamson	To Maximilian Westeian	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont	To George Challoner Esqr.	4285 11 6	500 0 0

Setts	To Whom Granted	To Whom Payable	CRs.	£	Stg.
1	To Mr. Robt. Halsey Bald- rich	To Himself or Order	17139	10	0
1	To Mr. George Boswall	To Mr. Alexander Dick	430	0	0
1	To Cap. Edward Menzies	To George Cruickshank Esqr.	1714	4	6
1	To Capt. Robert Campbell	To Wooton Braham	252	13	6
1	To Robert Gregory Esqr.	To Edwd. Holden, Crut- tenden Esqr.	4903	3	0
1	To Robt. Gregory Esqr. Acct. Jn. Cartier Esqr.	To Stephen Law Esqr.	1971	6	9
1	To Do Do Do.	To Samuel Waller Esqr.	857	2	3
1	To Mr. Thomas Cooke	To George Bane Esqr.	1028	9	3
1	To David Crichton Junr.	To Thomas Crichton	4285	11	6
1	To Capt. Francis Flaction	To Mr. Patrick Scott	4285	12	0
1	To Mr. Robert Brown	To Messrs. Nixon & Lewis	4285	12	0
1	To Mr. Archibald Kier	To Mr. Patrick Scott	2800	0	0
1	To Doctor Clement Crooke	To Messrs. Nixon & Lewis	2875	7	9
1	To Mr. Thomas Cooke	To Messrs. Wm. Cole- grave & James Wal- mesley	717	13	9
1	To Mr. Newman Mallack	To Himself	928	0	0
1	To Mr. Tysoe Saul Hancock	To Mrs. Elizabeth Hart	315	0	0
1	To Mr. John Orfeus Yates	To Mr. John Hardy	638	3	3
1	To Mr. Richard Hall	To himself	5000	0	0
1	To Ditto	To Capt. Nicholas Webb & Rd. Hall	5000	0	0
1	To Tysoe Saul Hancock Esqr. and Mr. Russell Skinner	To Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft	2076	11	9
1	To Mr. Nicholas Grueber	To Sir James Johnstone & Mr. Samuel Han- nay	2000	0	0
1	To Mr. William Bolts	To Mr. John Misenor	1542	13	6
1	To Mr. Richard Dean	To William Dean	428	9	0
1	To Coja Solomon David	To John Davis & J. Z. Holwell Esqr.	1714	4	6
1	To Peter Carstairs	To Mr. Allan Auld	3000	0	0
1	To Licut John Grant Acct. Ballances of Licuts. Ma- chie, [Mahie?], Herron, Prideaux, Allen, Fuller; Ensigns Brabazon, Fra- zer; Surgeons Brown, Jenks; & Serjts. Pow- ell and Gordale	To Richard Cox Esqr.	5300	11	6
1	To the Hon'ble James Phillip Lyon	To Robert & Mungo Holdane Acct. James Holdane	2264	15	9
1	To Do. Do. Do.	To John Zephania Hol- well; Wm. Birch & John Davies	83585	4	6
	To Warren Hastings Esqr. & the Hon'ble James Phillip Lyon	To Richard Bouchier	1884	7	6

Setts	To Whom Granted	To Whom Payable	CRs.	£Strg.
1	To Mr. John Johnstone	To Sir James Johnstone & Mr. Samuel Han- nay	4284 11 6	500 0 0
1	To Peter Amyatt Esqr. ac- count William Ellis Esqr.	To Brabazan Ellis & William Watts Esqr.	8571 7 0	1000 0 0
1	To Ditto	To Major Thos. Town- send	11605 6 3	1353 19 2½
1	To Mr. Robt. Gregory Acct. Capt. Ambrose Perry	To Mr. Francis Perry	857 6 0	100 0 6
1	To Mr. Richard Barwell	To William Barwell Esqr.	1052 1 6	122 14 10
1	To Peter Amyatt Esqr. Atty. to Wm. Ellis Esqr. Acct. the Estate of Mr. Francis Vassmer Dece'd	To Walpole Eyre Esqr.	280 5 6	32 14 1½
1	To Mr. James Lawrell	To Messrs. James Spal- ding and Samuel Sea- well	812 0 0	94 14 8
1	To Mr. William Magee	To George Gray	1643 1 3	191 13 10
1	To Ditto	To George Gray Esqr.	835 9 0	97 9 7
1	To Ditto	To Hugh Baillie Esqr.	428 9 3	50 0 0
72 Setts		Curr. Rupees	378774 5 3	44190 2 10½

Fort William
The 14th Feby. 1763
Origl. p. Drake
Dup. p. Hardwick
Trip. p. Clinton

We are
May it please your Honors,
Your faithfully humble Servants,
H.V.S./P.A./S.B./W.B./J.C.
W.H./J.J./W.H./R.M./H.W.

LETTER DATED 18 APRIL 1763

Hostile actions of Mir Qasim at Patna—Company's right to custom-free foreign as well as inland trade asserted—seizure of Mir Qasim's officers and procedure for settling disputes with them—instructions solicited on procedure for sending letters to Indian powers—Hay and Amyatt to be deputed to Mir Qasim—complaints against Ellis—disposition of troops—Mir Qasim's parwana exempting all goods from duty—indignation of the Board—skirmishes with the Nawab's officers—Johnstone and Hay accuse Vansittart of private agreement with the Nawab—Mir Qasim's reluctance to receive the deputation and Board's insistence.

TO The Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please your Honors,

1. In the 29 Paragraph of our last Address under Date the 14th of February, We advised you that We should immediately proceed to consider of the Matters for which the full Board had been Assembled; and we accordingly met the next Day for that Purpose.
2. Previous to our entering upon Business, Motions were made for Summoning Major Adams & Major Carnac to sit at the Board on this Occasion; which Motions being Approved by the
 15th Feby. Majority, those Gentlemen were accordingly summoned; and we beg leave to referr you to the said Consultation of the 15th Feby. for the Opinions of the several Members on this Head.
3. Major Adams being then at the Cantonment near Ghyrotte could not be present that Day; All that We concluded therefore at this Meeting, was upon a Due and serious Consideration of the several
 15th Feby. Letters receiv'd, to issue Orders to the Different Subordinates instructing them, until they should receive our further Directions, to Carry on both the Companys and Private Business in the same manner as before; paying such Duties on certain Articles in the latter Branch, as they usually did pay previous to the late Regulations; and on this footing, to prevent as far as possible any Violence being committed either by our People or the Governments; but that if any such Insolencies should be attempted as to oblige them to make use of Force, to endeavor, to seize the Principal Person who might have thus endeavor'd to injure Us. And to prevent all Pleas of Ignorance which might in such Cases be urged on the Part of the Government, the President at the same time wrote circular Letters to the several Fougedars, informing them as far as was necessary of these Resolutions and Orders.
4. At the same Consultation Major Carnac sent in a Letter representing the Propriety of his having the Command of the Troops at Patna, which
 15th Feby. was Recorded and Ordered to lay for Consideration.
5. At Our next Consultation it being esteemed necessary for the Information of Major Adams, to read again the Several Proceedings, and Papers relative to the President's Transaction with the Nabob, Our Time was by this Perusal so far consumed, that we could conclude nothing further that
 18th Feby. Day than to Settle a Plan for carrying on Our future Proceedings; and which Plan your Honors will find there enter'd.
6. We met again on the 19th with an Intention to consider the first Article of the said Plan, compared with our Firmaun, Hasbulhookums and Subsequent Treaties; but of many
 19th Feby. of these exact Translations being previously required to enable us to judge properly on the Question, We ordered Translations to be

accordingly prepared; and for that Day proceeded on the Second Article of the Plan relative to the Nabob's having Shut up one of the Gates of the City of Patna, and run an Entrenchment into the River which prevented the Tracking of Boats on the side of the Factory. Our Opinions and Determination on these Points, as well as regarding a Gunge

Cons. 19th Feby. belonging to the said Factory which the Nabob wanted to remove, are entered at Large on the Face of the Consultation; to which therefore We refer You.

7. The Translations and other necessary Papers order'd to be prepar'd being laid before us were enter'd on the face of next Consultation agreeable to the Order in which they were read; and being likewise fully consider'd and Debated on at the Board, The Substance of the whole was reduced into a set of Questions, on which the several Members were desired to deliver in their Opinions in writing against the Tuesday following.

8. Accordingly they were delivered in; and it was found to be the Opinion of the Majority, that, from the Tenor of our Firmaun Hasbulhookums and Treaties, We had an absolute Right to carry on our Trade, as well Foreign as Inland in the Provinces of Bengall, Bahar and Orixia by the means of a Dustuck free of all Duties or Customs to the Country Government; But that the Nabob might have no Room left, for Complaint or to think that we intended pressing Our Rights harder upon him than We had done on former Subahs, It was agreed to continue to him a certain Consideration on the Article of Salt. And by the Sum of the Answers to the Question, What that Consideration should be. It was resolved, In Consultation of the

1st March. 2d March. (a) Or Houghly 2d. March to allow him 2½ p Cent upon the Rowenna Market Price Price; And that salt was the only Article of Trade which should pay any Custom whatever to the Country Government.

9. This being become here an established and fixed Resolution, It now remains with your Honors to Judge of the Justness of it, as well as of the Validity of the Arguments made use of on both sides, on the Occasion; and We therefore referr you to them entirely, as entered at large on the Consultations of the 1st & 2nd of March.

10. A Complaint, supported by Extracts from many Letters, was deliver'd into the Board, by Messrs. Cartier, Johnstone, Hay, Senior, and Bolts, and which determined us to seize the Offender being the Nabob's Phousdar at Rangamatty¹; that We might learn from what Orders or Motives he acted in a manner so prejudicial to the English and Trade in general. We accordingly wrote to Dacca, to put the Orders in execution from thence as being the nearest Factory; and if they seized him to send him to Calcutta, And a Complaint of



Part of the city of Patna on the river Ganges

much the same nature, from Luckypore, made us determine to seize Syed Buddle Cawn², Comar Ally & Aga Nazam; Officers Cons. 22d Feby. acting under Mahomed Aly beg, the Nabob's Collector of the Dacca District,

11. Having determined in answer to the 5 & 6 questions proposed the 22d of Feby., that our Gomastahs or Agents should be under no actual Controul of the Officers of the Government but restrain'd by certain Regulations which should be laid down, We 5th March proceeded to settle such Regulations as We thought necessary for restraining accordingly our Agents and Gomastahs from interfering with any Affairs of the Country Government injuring the People, or being injured by them, And for deciding Disputes which might arise between them. For these ends We determined, that a Gomastah being aggriev'd by any Dependant of the Government; should first make his Application to the Officer of the Government residing on the Spot; from whom if he did not receive immediate Satisfaction, he should send his Complaint to the Chief of the nearest Factory, who should be empower'd to take Cognizance of the same and demand or exact if necessary the Satisfaction which the Case might require. On the Other hand where the Governments People should have reason to complain against English Gomastahs or Agents; We determined that they should be directed to give the said Agent or Gomastah Notice of the Complaint in Writing, and require and recommend to him to settle the same in an equitable and amicable manner; which if the Gomastah or Agent should refuse or neglect to do, that the Government's Officer should then transmit an Account of it to the Chief of the nearest English Factory, who should be required to examine strictly into the affair and decide it according to justice. Auxiliary to this general Rule We agreed on several other regulations which your Honors will find enter'd at large on the Consultation of the 5th of March Likewise to render the whole every where effectual, We appointed a Member of the Cossimbuzar Factory Resident at Rungpoor, to take Cognizance of the Complaints and decide the Disputes which might arise in the Districts too distant from any of the establish'd Factories and who should at same time carry on and endeavor to improve the Companys Silk Investment made at that Place.

12. On account of this Appointment We added another Servant to the Council at Cossimbuzar, which was Mr. James Phillip Lyon; and who was also at first nominated to the Residency above mention'd 16th March but upon a Revisal of the appointment it was the Opinion of the Majority that Mr. Chambers the Second should be sent to Rungpore, and that Mr. Lyon should proceed third to Cossimbuzar.

13. During the Course of these deliberations the President wrote frequently to the Nabob; first to inform him that the Regulations he had proposed could not take place, and of the Resolutions relative

to the Burbunna Gate and Gunge^s, and afterwards of the many Complaints which arrived from all Quarters against his Officers, and for which We should expect to receive ample Reparation. The first Answer of any consequence to these Letters arrived with us in Council the 7 of March; In the one of them he contain'd his Answer with respect to Trade in three Propositions or Demands which are extracted and
 Cons. 7th March entered at length in the body of the Consultation. In the other there appeared throughout a general disinclination to give us any Satisfaction, for the Interruptions and ill usage which We had receiv'd from the Officers of his Government. And both Letters in the whole seem'd rather an Evasion than any Answer to the President's representations.

14. It was therefore agreed that a Letter should be immediately wrote him, containing our Opinion of his Letters, and giving him a full Account of what had been hitherto resolv'd on by the Board, in
 7th March consequence of the Reference had to the Firmaun, Husbulhookums and Treaties; by the Tenor of which the Board were determined to abide. It was at same Time resolved that Messrs. Amyatt and Hay should be deputed to the Nabob, to explain to him more fully the Justice of those Rights and Pretensions and settle with him the Rules for levying the Custom which We had agreed should be paid him and that for the former Purpose they should be furnish'd with Copies of the said Phirmaun, Husbulhookums and Treaties. Of this Resolution likewise the Nabob was now advised; and further acquainted That as We should strictly examine into all the Complaints against English Agents and Gomastahs, and cause them to make amends for whatever Injustice it might appear they had committed, so, We should insist upon Justice against all those Officers of his Government, who might be proved Guilty of the Obstructions and Extortions laid to their charge; & that they should be obliged to make Reparation for all Losses occasion'd thereby.

15. As the first of the beforemention'd Propositions from the Nabob implied an Ignorance of the nature of our Government and the Powers of the Council, Mr. Johnstone moved that a Publick Letter should be wrote to him explaining these points and redemanding the Presidents Letter which contain'd the Regulations; and That such Letter should be signed by the whole Board and go under the Companys Seal; but the Majority of the Board dissenting to the Latter part of this Motion; It was agreed that the points mention'd by Mr. Johnstone should be expressed in two Additional Paragraphs to the Letter before Order'd to be wrote under the sign and seal of the President.

16. This Motion of Mr. Johnstone's with another made by the same Gentleman on the 17th of March, serving to shew that
 17th March your Orders relative to the Method of carrying on the Country Correspondence do not appear sufficiently

clear and explicit, We beg leave to refer you to the Opinions given those two Days, and to desire that you will favor us in consequence with your further explanation and Directions on this head.

17. When we appointed Messrs. Amyatt and Hay Deputies to the Nabob; it was likewise esteem'd proper and necessary that they should carry along with them a Person to continue in the Quality of Resident at the Durbar; and Mr. Thomas Amphlett was accordingly appointed. To which Appointment Mr. Henry Hutchinson was afterwards nominated Assistant.

Cons.
7th March
22nd March

18. We received a Letter from Patna informing us that the Nabob had put a Dustuck on our Gomastah employ'd on providing Ophium at Bahar with intention to Collect Duties on that Article; and that the Chief had wrote to Rajah Nobut Roy the Naib at Patna, to enquire the Reasons for such Proceeding; In answer to this We repeated the General Orders sent them on 15th February; Before the next Consultation We had received another Letter enclosing Nobut Roy's answer to the Chief; In consequence whereof, It was then resolved, that the President should write to the Nabob requiring as Positive and immediate answer whether he would issue Orders to all his Officers to revoke those before sent when he circulated the late Regulations, and permit all Branches of Trade to go on in the former Channel, or not and to acquaint him that if he either refused or neglected to give such an Answer it must be productive of a Rupture between Us; an Event which We should be very sorry should happen.

5 March
10 March

19. In Consultation the 14th of March there was [*sic*] Letters received and some further Determinations pass'd relative to the Gunge and other Affairs at Patna; but as they were Circumstances not very material We beg leave to refer you for an account of them to the Consultation and Letters of that Day. The Secretary was the same Day order'd to prepare a Draft of Instructions for Messrs. Amyatt and Hay.

14th March

20. At Consultation the 17th of March The President laid before the Board two Letters which he had receiv'd from the Nabob. These containing only some ill grounded general Reflections against Mr. Ellis, and Misrepresentations and Exaggersations with regard to the Losses sustain'd on his side from the Disturbances in the Country; were immediately replyed to in the Terms related in that Day's Proceedings, concluding with an assurance that if he did not injure or interrupt our Business or suffer his Officers to do so, his Government would be very safe and We should always be glad to support him in all the rights of it.

17th March

21. The Secretary likewise now deliver'd in a Draft of Instruction for Messrs. Amyatt and Hay to which some Paragraphs minuted on Consultation were that day added and they were order'd to lay for further Consideration.

22. Our next Consultation was wholly taken up in the Disposition of the Troops; when it was resolved for the Reasons there 'mention'd, to assemble Our Army in two Bodys, the Kings Regt. to
 Cons. 21st March forming one & the Companys Troops another each under their proper Officers, at Patna and Ghyrottee; That they should in these stations relieve each other annually, and that Major Carnac with the Remainder of the Companys Troops should proceed and take the Patna station till the end of the Year; on account of the saving it would be of Expense in marching that party as being the smallest in number. The further necessary Regulations with regard to the Military Duties at the Presidency, and the Rule of March in changing the above stations, are enter'd amongst the other Resolutions in the said Consultation.

23. Considering the great Loss which annually happens in your Troops, from the unhealthiness of the Climate in and about Calcutta; and from the inactive state which they remain in, in garrison, how little they can be inured to Fatigue, and of course how unfit for action if requisite; We cannot doubt but you will approve of the Disposition especially when you further consider the Difficulty you find in replacing the most trivial deficiency [*sic*] in your Troops, and how necessary it is to maintain a respectable Body on the Principal Frontier, for our safety against foreign Enemies, and securing the Tranquility of the Country.

24. As from this Disposition a large part of our Troops will always be at Patna, and as on account of the Distance from the Presidency much must be left to the discretion of the Persons directing on the spot; It was thought necessary to determine in case of a Difference of Opinion between the Field Officer and the Chief of Patna, to whom the Instructions are Jointly address'd how the point should be settled, and the Question being accordingly debated It was agreed that in case a Difference should arise in Opinion regarding any piece of Service which required to be immediately executed, they should be directed to refer the same for decision to the Chief and Council at Patna and that the Matter in Question should be carried into execution agreeable to their Determination. But altho' this resolution is to take place only in cases when the nature of the Service will not admit of the Delay of writing to the Board for further Orders; yet as some of the Members were for adopting other Methods, We shall be glad your Honors would confirm that or any other which you think most proper to be followed.

25. On the 22nd March Mr. Johnstone laid before the Board, Copy of a Saned and Perwannah of the Nabob's which he had received in Private
 22nd March Letters from Patna, The former containing an Exemption of all Duties whatever within his Government for the space of two years; and the latter to Rajah Nobut Roy enjoining the strictest compliance with the Tenor of this Saned. On these Mr. Johnstone desired the Opinion of the Board might be collected and a

Resolution come to, before Messrs. Amyatt and Hay should proceed on their Deputation.

26. This was accordingly done next Council Day for the Majority of the Board being of Opinion, that the Nabob as Subah had no Authority to take such a step, that it was done with a View to prejudice the Companys Business and counteract the Measures which the Board had been taking for the Welfare of Trade in general, It was therefore resolved that Paragraph should be added to Messrs. Amyatt and Hay's instructions, directing them to represent this to the Nabob, and insist upon his revoking the Saned and collecting Duties as before,

27. The same Day further Letters were laid before the Board from the Nabob full of Complaints against our Conduct, for ordering to be seized the Persons mention'd in the 10 Paragraph of this Letter; and against Mr. Ellis's for having also apprehended the Phousdar's Naib at Tadjipore⁴ for interrupting the Salt Petre investment; further advising us of his having issued the above mentioned Saned, with intention to prevent any further Disturbances, and repeating an Insinuation which he before made use of that these Disputes were continued with a view to bring on a breach between Us.

28. To these Letters the President immediately replied in the Terms enter'd on that days Proceedings; That our Original Orders in the Case of Dispute or Interruption to our Business, were to apply to him or his Officers for redress, and that it was not till this Method was so often tried without Effect, that we made use of the Disagreeable, but only, Remedy We had left, of freeing our Business by our own Force; That of this he had no right to complain, having been before advised of these Orders, and our Business being still stop'd and obstructed, excepting in those Places where our Troops were actually station'd for its Protection—That when he had given such Orders as should put an end to those Obstructions, We on our part would not interfere with his Officers in the Affairs of his Government. That We had wrote him before of our Resolutions and Demands and now again acquainted him, That We should insist upon a Compliance with them in every point. That We were heartily resolv'd to support him in his Government and all his Rights; but that if he opposed our People in the execution of Orders which We had Authorized, and with which he had been acquainted, We should look upon such Conduct as an open Declaration of War. And that to shew him our earnest Desire to prevent such an Event, We continued in our Resolution to send to him Messrs. Amyatt & Hay as soon as We should receive his Answer to our former Letter.

29. The Opposition alluded to in the foregoing Paragraph, your Honors will find an Account of, in the Patna Letters of the 15th & 16th of March; whereby it appears that a Body of Troops detach'd from the Nabob's Camp, attacked the few Seapoys which were left in charge of the Salt Petre after the

principal Disturber was seiz'd of whom having killed four, and wounded three more they carried the remainder Prisoners to the Nabob; after examination he thought proper to dismiss them; and as We were unanimously inclined rather to accommodate Matters in an amicable Manner, than carry them to extremities We thought best to wave. [*sic*] for the present entering into the Particulars of this Insult, or demanding the explanation and Satisfaction, wh[ich] so Hostile an Act as it appear'd to be, certainly required.

30. Syed Buddull Cawn and Aga Nazam being arrived from Luckypore were called before the Board, and examined on the
 Cons. 28th March Circumstances laid to their Charge; In their Defence they produced several Letters from Mahomed Aly the Collector at Dacca, of which the most material are enter'd on Consultation. These being found to contain Orders of the most pernicious and Insolent Nature, even for surrounding our Factory at Luckypore, seizing our dependents and sending them in Irons to Dacca, interrupting our Intercourse by Letters and intercepting the Packets; and at the same Time treating the Gentlemen of the Factory, and the Name of the English in general in the most Opprobrious Term We determined to seize Mahomed Aly and bring him to Calcutta, that We might learn what Orders or Motives prompted him to write in this Manner and a Letter was immediately wrote to the Gentlemen at Dacca to that Effect.

31. At this Days Consultation Messrs. Johnstone and Hay deliver'd in a
 28th March Minute, desiring that Messrs. Amyatt and Hay might be instructed to enquire of the Nabob, Whether he enter'd into any private Agreement with the President to exempt his Goods from paying the Duty of 9 p Cent established by the Late Regulations; as from a Letter of the Nabob's to Mahomed Aly, received from Dacca, it appear'd to th[em] that such an Agreement had been made, The President in his Answer on the same Consultation, was the first to desire that the Enquiry should be made and added some further remarks which appear on his Minute. A Paragraph was accordingly annex'd to Messrs Amyatt and Hay's Instructions.

32. The several Additions having been made to the Instructions for Messrs. Amyatt and Hay, they were now again Read and Approved; And Order'd to be Engross'd and Enter'd. We therefore beg leave to refer you to them, for any Particulars of their Commission which may have been omitted in this Summary.

33. Messrs Amyatt and Hay now remain'd ready to set out when the Nabob's Answer should arrive; but on receipt there of
 30th March it was found to contain rather a refusal than an Acceptance of [the] Visit, so far as should regard the Publick Business; from a Conception, that his having abolished all kinds of Duties, renderd any further Conference or Regulations respecting Trade altogether unnecessary. The further Substance of his Letters consisted in a

Repetition of his former Remonstrances and Retorts, and a Refusal to give us the Satisfaction required for the Losses sustain'd by thes[e] Disturbances. The several Members were therefore desired to deliver in their Opinions on those Letters; whether they thought Messrs. Amyatt and Hay should proceed, or what other measures should be taken to bring these Disputes to a Conclusion.

34. Accordingly in Consultation the 1st of April the Opinions were given in and read and the Matter being also fully consider'd
 Cons. 1st April and debated on; It was resolved in conformity to the Voice of the Majority, That the Nabob should be again wrote to, to insist on his receiving the intended Deputation for treating upon Business; And That Messrs. Amyatt and Hay should proceed to, and wait his answer at Cossimbuzar. The President therefore address'd him under that Date, representing the Indecent Style of his Letters and the Impropriety of his Conduct—That these had already been such as would fully justify our coming to a Rupture but to shew him how distant such a Proceeding was from our Thoughts, We acquainted him once more of our Intentions. That with a View of Settling the Disputes in the Country in the most effectual & Speedy manner & to avoid coming to extremities, We deputed Messrs. Amyatt & Hay to confer with him at Mongheer and that their Commission treated on many other Points beside that of Duties tending to the Welfare of his Government as well as the Company's; That he accordingly ought to regard such our Appointment of two Gentlemen of the Board, as the Strongest Mark of our Friendship and Compliment paid him; And that it therefore behoved him to write us immediately that he would receive the Deputation in a suitable Manner to treat upon Business. That if he refused so reasonable a Demand it would not be in our Power to remove the Suspensions & Jealousies which he harbour'd in his Mind; And as the Alarms in all parts of the Country must be attended with very great Loss and Detriment both to his Affairs and the Company's, that a Breach of the Friendship between us would infallibly ensure [ensue]. That We once more assured him of our Hearty Resolution to support and assist him in every Branch of his Government but that if he refused to receive the Present Deputation, it would be regarded in no other Light than a Declaration on his side of his Intention to come to a Rupture with us.

35. At the said Consultation, two Letters were received from Patna. The one concerning the difficulty which they met with
 [1st April] procuring Sicca Rupees for their Investment and the other giving an Account of an Attack made by a large Body of the Nabobs Troops, on a party of Seapoys who had been sent to seize the Nabob's Officer at Gyah for detaining a Subadar who went their sic] upon his Devition; In consequence of these We address'd some further Instructions to Messrs. Amyatt & Hay of which a Copy is enter'd in the Course of that Days Proceedings. And as moving the Troops Order'd to Patna with Major Carnac would have tended at this Juncture to alarm the Country and perplex the Nabob; It was agreed to deferr their March until Messrs. Amyatt and Hay should arrive at Mongheer.

36. In many of the Consultations noted in the Margin of this Letter, Papers are refer'd to as enter'd in the Register of Country Papers; a Copy of which Book therefore goes a Number in the Royal George's Packet, to render the Proceedings compleat.

37. In Consultation 22d March Mr. Batson moved that Coja Petrus the Armenian Merchant should with all his Family be turned out of the Settlement, as being well-known to be a spy of the Nabob's but this not appearing just to the Majority of the Board, It was Determined only to forbid him carrying on Correspondence with the Officers of the Country Government, or any other persons in the Country excepting in regard to his Mercantile Concerns.

38. On the 4th of April the Instructions to Messrs. Amyatt and Hay being signed, those Gentlemen took their leave of the Board to Proceed to Cossimbuzar; and if the Nabob consents to receive their deputation We make not the Least doubt but they will have the Success to accommodate Matters amicably, and to the Welfare and Advantage of both Government[s].

39. Since the Departure of Messrs Amyatt & Hay We have received two more Letters from the Nabob in one of which he
 Cons. 11th April still declines receiving those Gentlemen, upon Business for the Reasons he had before given But as We had already resolved to be determined in our Measures from the Answer which he shall send to our Letter of the 1st April We thought it unnecessary to reply to these and only transmitted Copies of them to Messrs. Amyatt and Hay for their Information.

40. In one of the Presidents Letters to the Nabob he had desired him to write what Particular Accusations he had to lay to the Charge of Mr. Ellis as also to point out to him any particular Instances of the Losses which he had sustained thro' the Oppression & Bad Behaviour of English Gomastahs But We find from his Answer which is one of the above Letters that all he has to alledge against Mr. Ellis are the Complaints which happened in the Course of Last Year, & as to the last he refuses to discuss the Affair further.

41. In this Days Consultation Mr. Johnstone and the President delivered
 18th April in each a further Minute on the Subject which is mentioned in the 31 Paragraph of this Letter and the same were accordingly enter'd.

42. This Detail of the Affairs with the Country Government is wrote in Conformity to the Measures adopted by the Majority of the Board; But some Members differed in Opinion from the Majority in many Particulars;

We therefore beg leave to referr Your Honors for their Reasons to the several Consultations.

We are

Fort William
18th April 1763.

May it please Your Honors

Your faithfull humble Servants

Transmitted

Henry Van Sittart/John Carnac/

Origl. P Royal George

Stanlake Batson/William Billers/John Cartier/

Dup. P Ashburnham

Warren Hastings/John

Trip. Overland Via Madrass

Johnstone/Randolph Marriott

Quadrup. Do. Do.

Hugh Watts.

36

LETTER DATED 18 APRIL 1763

Shipping news—despatch of French prisoners—dispute with the Dutch regarding capture of a ship commanded by the French—negotiations with the Dutch about saltpetre—Danish factory at Serampore invested by Maj. Adams—recruits for service at Manilla—Vansittart's desire to leave India by the end of 1764—bills of exchange.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors

1. Agreeable to the Advice given you in our last Address under Date the 14th February, your Ships the Clinton, Houghton, Cons. 14th March Drake & Hardwick, were dispatched from Ingerlee by the Master Attendant on the 27th of February and 3rd March, to proceed on their respective Destinations.

2. At the Consultations the 3rd & 25th of March the Export Warehouse Keeper deliver'd in two Letters acquainting us that Several Bales had been return'd Damaged from the ship Hardwick & of some further Mistakes which had been committed in signing the Bills of lading for that ship, as well as the Drake; He further pointed out to us, as the reason for the former Circumstance, that the Sloops had been permitted to toss about many Days at Ingerlee, in boisterous Weather, without any means being used for unloading them. We must agree with the Export Warehouse Keeper in thinking this the true Cause of the Damage which has happen'd, as all the River Sloops are carefully survey'd and reported, by the Master Attendant fit for Service before they are employ'd; And We therefore request that You will call on Captain Samson for his Reasons for the above Detention. For the other

Mistakes We refer you to the Letters themselves enter'd on the foresaid Consultation, and leave You to take from them such further Steps as you may judge necessary.

3. You were advised in a Letter to the Secretary, by the ship Drake, of the
 Cona, Arrival of the Royal George from Fort Marlbro,
 2d March and Malacca. Captain Skottowe representing to Us
 that this Ship had been thirty Months off the Ground
 and was very foul, We Order'd her to be brought up to Town; and She has
 there been hove down under the Direction of the Master Attendant.

4. We immediately took into Consideration, in what method We should
 employ the Royal George, and for the Reasons which are
 3d March fully stated in Consultation, We determined that
 She should proceed to England with a full Cargoe of
 fine Goods, which would render her nearly equal in Value to a Charter'd
 Ship And that the Boscawen should be station'd for Madrass with a Cargoe
 of Grain, and be recommended to be sent to China.

5. Immediately after this Disposition of the Boscawen, the Osterley
 arrived from Fort St. George, which Ship, the Gentle-
 4th March men there sent down purposely for a Cargoe of
 4th April Grain. We therefore order'd her to be loaded as well
 as the Boscawen, with all Expedition, & they were both dispatched in
 Council the 4 April.

6. Captain Braund of the Boscawen departed this Life on the 7th April;
 He had before received our Permission to remain behind on Account of his
 bad Health, and the Chief Officer was directed to proceed
 4th April in charge of the ship to Fort St. George; And as the Dis-
 11th April patches had left Town before the Captains Death, We only
 advised it in a further Letter to that Presidency leaving the Confirmation of
 the Command to them.

7. Agreeably to the Resolution in our Consultation of the 22d of August.
 We have this season supplied Fort St. George, with
 3d March Ten thousand Maunds of Salt Petre but We were
 obliged to retain one thousand Maunds of the Quan-
 tity Promised Bombay, to secure a sufficiency for the two Charter Party
 Ships, which We then intended to dispatch home. And to render still a greater
 saving of this Article to assist Us in our next Years Business, was one of the
 Principal Reasons for stationing the Royal George to Europe instead of the
 Boscawen.

8. The remaining five thousand Maunds of the Bombay supply We freight-
 ted thither on the Windsor; and on the 4th March We
 3d Feby, dispatched the Leopard Snow to Fort St. George with
 14 March the Consignment of Military Stores which the said Ship
 brought round from Bombay for that Presidency.

9. The Ship *Winchelsea* after getting clear of the French Frigate, put in for safety to Vizagapatam; and having sailed again from
 Cons. 14th March thence arrived with us in the beginning of March.
 For an account of her Proceedings from Bombay, We refer you to a Letter of Captain Howe's from Vizagapatam, which was receiv'd after his Arrival here, and is minuted in Consultation the 14th March.

10. The Season Being far elapsed, we immediately Consulted on the most proper Method of employing the *Winchelsea*; And from the Consideration of Your Orders in favour of Captain Howe, as We had
 7 March no material Service to employ her on for the Company, We determined that she should be let at Freight for the space of Twenty Months from the 1st of April; and accordingly made Advertizement for receiving Proposals on or before the 21st of March.

11. Proposals were deliver'd in by Mr. Van Sittart on behalf of himself and other Freighters, which were accepted of, under one further Provision
 22d March on the Part of the Company, But it being at same
 1st April time observ'd that her Charter Party with the Company, Would expire before the Charter Party with the present Freighters; It became necessary for the security of all Parties that a fresh Agreement should be enter'd into prolonging the Term of the Former, to which Captain Howe consenting on the Part of his Owners, An Indenture was accordingly drawn up; And being with the Charter party of affreightment executed at the Board on the 1st of April, The Ship was from that Date put under the Orders of the Freighters for the Term specified, And the other Presidencies were advised thereof for their Government.

12. We advised you in the 35 Paragraph of our last Address of having Advertized for a Cartel Ship to carry the French Prisoners to the Islands; In consequence whereof Proposals were deliver'd in to us
 22d March by Mr. Robert Gregory, for Freightling the Ship *Ganges* for that Service. As We still continued in our Resolution of taking this Step, We accepted of the Terms offer'd by Mr. Gregory, with some Additional Articles on both Sides; which as well as the Proposals themselves appear in our Consultation of the 22d March. The Ship is now, ready to proceed on her Voyage and will carry about thirty Officers and A Hundred Private Men.

13. Altho' the Cost of this Transaction, seems at the first View rather expensive, We doubt not but your Honors will approve of our Conduct, when you reflect on the advantage of getting rid of so Troublesome and dangerous a Sett of People, and the monthly growing Expence of keeping them here as well as the Obligation we were under of making a Return for the Persons made Prisoners in the *Walpole*.

14. In our last We advised you of our Intention to send the Syren Snow
 Cons. to Fort Marlbro', with an immediate supply of Ophium,
 10th Feby and she was accordingly dispatched in Council the
 21st Do. 10th of February, but having unfortunately struck on
 17th March the Weighs[sic], where she was put to be clean'd; It was
 impossible to get her off again till the following Spring.
 This Circumstance with the Time taken up in loading her Cargoe and Stores,
 Delay'd her dispatch till the 17th March, when She proceeded on her Voyage
 with a further Packet advising of the Reasons of this Detention.

15. On the 21st of March the Master Attendant deliver'd in his Report of
 the Nancy Ketch, whereby it appears, that he deemed her incapable of under-
 going the Alterations and Repairs directed from Fort
 21st March Marlbro'; but acquainted Us with such as he should
 give her, and which would render her equally useful
 for the Service of the West Coast; We have therefore directed him to compleat
 these Repairs and determined to dispatch her to Fort Marlbro' early next
 season, with a further supply of Ophium.

16. The Time limited by Charter party for dispatching the Ashburnham
 being expired, We received a Protest in consequence from Captain Pearce;
 of which a Copy is enter'd after our Consultation, and another goes a Number
 in that Ships Packet. As it appears almost every
 14th March Year, that it is impossible for us to dispatch our
 last Ship, within the time so specified; on account of
 the non arrival of the remains of the Investment from the Subordinates, We
 take the Liberty to mention that We think it would be much for the Com-
 pany's Interest to destine yearly to this Presidency One or Two Ships of
 the Size of the Royal George which having the Advantage of taking in their
 full Cargoe at Town, will seldom fail to make good their Passage out of the
 River, Whereas the Large Ships which are obliged to load at Ingerlee run a
 great Risk from the Violence of the Southerly Winds at this Season.

17. On the 15th February The President laid before the Board a Letter
 which he had received from Captain Steven Iveson, Commander of the
 Sullivan Country Ship, acquainting Him that in his Passage from Bombay,
 he had seiz'd on a Snow called the Susanna Margarita bound from the Island
 of Mauritius to Negapatam, judging her to be French Property; from being
 navigated by a French Commander and Officers, and
 15th Feby. having only a Passport from a Private Dutch
 Merchant. Captain Iveson also transmitted the se-
 veral Papers of Consequence which he found on Board; from these with the
 other Circumstances mention'd in his Letter, We thought there was great
 Ground to imagine that She would be found a lawful Prize. We therefore
 determined to take Possession of her on behalf of the Company; & having
 brought her with the Cargo to a Publick Sale to deposite the Amount in our
 Treasury until the Cause should be decided in Europe. But as We supposed

that the Dutch would reclaim her on Account of the beforemention'd Merchant; We order'd her Hatches to be Sealed down with the Companys Seal, And wrote to the Directore and Council at Houghley advising them of the Affair and enclosing Copies of the several Papers, and desiring they would send down a Commissary to see that no part of her Cargo was embezzled, and be present at taking the Inventory and making the Sale.

18. We received their Answer to this Letter on the 21st of February, claiming the Vessell on account of her being Dutch Property, and there
 Cons. appearing no manner of Cause to them for making
 21st Feby. the Seizure, and therefore refusing to send any
 Commissary for the purposes We mention'd.

19. The same Day, We replied to the Arguments which they made use of for proving her in no respect a Lawful Prize, in a Letter of which the Substance is minuted in the Consultation; and inform'd them of a further circumstance, which We had that morning discover'd of a Packet of French Letters, which were found on board and contain'd Intelligence of Public Affairs from Frenchmen at the Islands to other Frenchmen on the Coast of Choromandell; That these being convey'd with the knowledge and by the means of Monsr. Gossard, the Commander of the Snow, proved in him a Notorious Breach of Faith, and forfeited all Title to the Indulgence granted him by Mr. Pigot.

20. As the Propriety of our proceedings in this Affair, and the Lawfulness of the Prize, now remain'd to be determined by our respective Superiors; We thought it unnecessary to swell the process
 2nd March with a further Correspondence. We therefore determined immediately after writing this Answer to Advertize the Ship and Cargo for Sale and when the next Houghley Letter was received, which contained a Protest against our Proceedings, We only recorded it without sending any Reply.

21. The Vessell and Cargo were brought to a Sale on the 8th of March under the Direction of Captain Iveson, whom We had appointed Agent for the Company; And on the 24th of March he deliver'd
 14th March in his Accounts, which being inspected and approved, were enter'd after that day's Consultation and the Ballance being (Cr. 23349-9-7) Current Rupees Twenty three thousand three hundred and forty Nine, nine Annas and Seven Pice, was [deposited] in the Treasury.

22. Thinking it necessary to send you [along] with the other Vouchers in these Transaction[s], the [Depositions] of the French Commander and Officer of the Snow, We accordingly Order'd them to be
 21st Feb. taken* by a Justice of the Peace, in the Presence of a
 4th April Notary Publick; and Mr. Billers deliver'd in the Mate's Deposition so taken, but from a Report made

to us by the President, We found that the Captain had broke his Parole, and was supposed to have escaped out of the River in a Dutch Ship. The Officer is sent home on the Ashburnham.

23. The Originals of the two Letters from the Dutch, with another attested Copy, and two Setts of Attested Copies of every other Paper relative to this Proceeding also the most Material of the French Letters which were found in the Vessel are transmitted you in the Packets by the Ships Royal George and Earl of Ashburnham.

24. When this Prize Snow first came into the River, Captian Brook Samson of the Hardwicke seiz'd upon her in Virtue of his Letter of Marque;
 Cons. and wrote us a Letter demanding the Papers, that he
 18th Feby. might transmit them to the High Court of Admiralty, to obtain a Condemnation of the said Snow.

25. We wrote him for Answer, that as he was forbid[den?] in his Instructions from you, to make any use of his Letter of Marque but for the Defence of his Ship, unless under the Orders of the
 21st Feby. Company's Agents and Representatives; and as We had given him no Orders to Attack this Vessel, We thought he had no Right to seize her, especially after her Arrival in the River; That We had taken Possession of the Vessel and Cargo on behalf of the Company, and should after bringing them to a Sale, transmit attested Copies of all the Papers to You, keeping the Original here.

26. We received an Answer to the Proposal which We made to the Director and Council at Houghley regarding the Partition of the Salt Petre Trade wherein they acquainted Us that they had yet
 22nd March got no Instructions from Europe to treat on that Subject, and therefore could not make any final Settlement, but that they were willing to hear what Terms We should offer, and hoped we would regulate ourselves therein by the Agreement which was made regarding that Trade in the Year 1745 being $42\frac{1}{2}$ for the English, $42\frac{1}{2}$ for the Dutch and 15 for the French in each hundred Maunds. We wrote them in Answer, that having lost many of our Books and Papers during the Troubles, We had no Record left of the Agreement they referr'd to; but that considering their present Circumstances and Ours both in regard to the War and our Situation in this Country, and that the French Share of this Trade might justly be deemed Ours by right of Conquest, We thought that $\frac{2}{3}$ ds for us and $\frac{1}{3}$ for them would be an equitable Partition: And that their Share on such Calculation should be deliver'd to their Factory at Patna as it came in, for the Amount of the Prime Cost and Charges.

27. In their Reply to this Letter they remonstrated against the Arguments We had urged for the above mention'd Division; but repeated,
 [30th?] March that as they had yet received no Instructions from their Superiors on this head, they should accept for this Year

such Share, as We thought in Equity did belong to them; and that they were fully Satisfied with the method of Delivery, provided they were furnished with an Account Particulars [*sic*] of the Cost and Charges. We therefore determined to abide by our former Resolution, and give them an Order accordingly on Patna for $\frac{1}{3}$ d Share of the Salt Petre Investment for the Present Year, to be deliver'd with such an account as they have required.

28. On the 1st of March Major Adams laid before the Board two Letters containing an Account of a very daring Insult done to our Nation by
 Cons. the Second, and Zemindar of the Danish Factory; who
 1st March on Account of a Trifling Quarrel between a Jemautdar Havildar & Sepoy of ours, and the Guard of Peons at the Barrier of their Town, took upon him to inflict a most ignominious Punishment on the Jemautdar, Havildar and Sepoy altho they wore their Regimentals. An Instance of an Affront of this Nature We had never before known to be practised between Nations at Peace and Friendship, could be look'd upon in no other Light than a design'd Insult to the whole Army, and if it had been permitted to pass unnoticed would certainly have been productive of the Worst of Consequences amongst our Troops; especially amongst the Establishment of Seapoys on whom we are now obliged to place much Reliance. We therefore, determined to insist on Satisfaction for the Injury done Us, and immediately wrote them to that Purpose; adding that We thought this Satisfaction should be as publick as the Injury itself, and therefore nothing less than an acknowledgement from the Person who committed it to the Commanding Officer at the [head] of the Troops at Ghyrottee.

29. We received their Answer on the 10th of [March], wherein they seem to avow the Action, and insisted mu[ch on their] right to punish any
 10th March Seapoys or other Dependants of Ours, [offending] within their settlement; and added as a Palliation of [their Present] Conduct that they had often before applied for Redress on the like Occasions without Effect, particularly regarding some Instances which they mention of Colonel Coote on the subject of the principal of these Instances, We took a Report (enter'd on that Day's Consultation) from Major Adams who was in Camp at the time it happen'd The Substance of this Report we advised them of in our Reply to their said Letter & being of Opinion that it, with the other Arguments We there stated, fully refuted what they had advanced. We repeated our Demand for satisfaction with this Alteration, that it should only be made to the Commanding Officer at the head Quarter at Ghyrottee.

30. Their next Letter was nothing more Satisfactory than the former; insisting only on the Arguments they had before
 28th March urged, endeavoring to invalidate Major Adams's Report and positively refusing Us any Satisfaction. The Board were therefore unanimously of Opinion,

for the Reasons enter'd on Consultation the 28th March, that We should ourselves exact the Satisfaction required if they still persisted in refusing it; Accordingly We again wrote them stating every possible Argument which We thought render'd our Right to Satisfaction, clear beyond a Doubt; and acquainting them that if they persisted in denying it, We had desired Major Adams to surround their Factory and seize the Person who so grossly offended against our Nation.

31. Our Orders to Major Adams were to forward the Letter from Ghyrottee by the hands of an Officer, and wait Twenty four Hours for an Answer; within which time if no Answer cam[e] or that which did come still contained a Denial to make the Acknowledgement required that he should surround the Factory with a Battalion of Seapoys and then demand the Acknowledgement from the Zemindar; which if he refused, to enter the Factory and seize him and carry him to Ghyrottee; and then let him return with a general Warning to his Factory, that in case they should have occasion for Complaint in future, not to take their own Satisfaction but apply to us for Redress. We further enjoin'd Major Adams, if it was found necessary to execute this Service, to be careful that no Injury was done to the Zemindar's Person, or to the Persons or Effects of any of the Inhabitants of the Factory.

32. No answer being received, Major Adams agreeable to the Orders, invested their Factory, In the Mean time another Letter arrived in Calcutta containing many Aggravations of their former Affront further acquainting Us with their ultimate Resolution not to Submit to make any Acknowledgement, & ending with a Protest against Us for all bad Consequences which might ensue.

33. Upon the whole it seems to Us that Mr. De Marchize being himself a Native of France, and by all Accounts much Attach'd to the Interest of that Nation and having encouraged many Frenchmen to reside in his Settlement whom he consults more than his Danish Council did therefore with a View of lessening our Credit in the Country seek an Occasion of insulting our Government. For which Reasons We thought it highly necessary to give a Check to such Attempts on their first Appearance; & have determined to keep the Factory Invested untill We have obtain'd the Satisfaction required.

34. In answer to our Letter of the 31st January, The Gentlemen at Chittagong sent Us a Plan of the Ground which they thought most proper for building a Fort on, as also the Model of a Work
 Cons. to be raised; but judging it necessary that We shou'd
 [1st] April first have a Survey made of the Spot they had pitched on, and all the Adjacent Country, by a Proper and Skillful Person sent for that Purpose; We directed them to collect together Materials, but to begin upon no work without our further Orders.

35. The Presidency at Fort St. George having represented to Us, that the Service at Manilha, will require not only all the Troops already there, but a further Reinforcement of 1500 or 2000 Seapoys & having requested our Assistance in raising that Number; We have given Orders to the Factories of Patna and Chittagong for entertaining if possible 500 each, on the Terms they have prescribed.

36. Finding the greatest Difficulty in Obtaining Recruits even for the Battalion, We saw it would be impossible to maintain the Establishment of the Cavalry likewise compleat; We therefore determined to reduce the Troop of Hussars, and divide them to make up the Two Troops of Horse. And the Commander in Chief at same time recommending, that an English Officer should have the Charge of the French Troop, which Colonel Coote brought with him from the Coast, We accordingly appointed Lieutenant George Hay thereto with the rank of Captain Lieutenant.

37. The only Vacancies in the Military since our Last, were occasion'd by
 Cons. the resignation of Captain Lauchlin MacLean Senior
 14th Feb. and Lieutenant John Bourene; The former return'd to
 [..] March Europe on the Drake and the Latter takes Passage on
 the Ship Earl of Ashburnham.

38. Since our last the following Promotions have also been made on the
 Military Establishment Vizt. Lieut. George Hay
 17th March Captain Lieutenant of Cavalry, and second Lieutenant
 William Smith to be first Lieutenant;—Ensigns Pickering,
 Scotland and Cowper to be Lieutenants in the Bat-
 talion, and Isaac Warren a Cadet in the Artillery, to be a Lieutenant Fire
 Worker. For the Dates of their several Commissions We referr you to the Regis-
 ter now again transmitted.

39. And We also referr you for the several Appointments on the Civil
 14th March Establishment to the usual List of Servants.

40. We find from a Letter sent in by the Naval Storekeeper, that it has
 always been customary for the Commanders of the Ships
 28th March to sign only to the Number of Bundles of the Bolt Iron;
 and they therefore, will not consent to its being receiv'd
 by weight; But as it often happens that the Bands of these bundles breake in
 the Stowage or Landing, It becomes uncertain whether the Real quantity
 is received. We must therefore recommend that in future you get the Weight
 certified as well as the Tale of Bundles.

41. The Establishment of Two Surgeons at the Presidency, We find to
 be greatly Deficient for the purposes of attending on the
 12th April Hospitals and the Companys Servants and Visiting the
 other Inhabitants of the Town during Sickness. We
 have therefore Appointed two Additional Surgeons at Calcutta; to Succeed to

the Office of Principal Surgeons when the Gentlemen whom you have already Nominat'd shall have been provided for; and We cannot make the least doubt but your Honors will approve this Measure, from the Valuable Consideration, that it May be the Means of saving Many Lives, & of enabling Us to afford the requisite Assistance to the Inhabitants in the course of the Sickly Season; and which We are sorry to Say We had not before sufficiently in Our Power.

42. We this day dispatch the Ships Royal George and Ashburnham directly to Europe, And in the Packet by the Royal George
 Cons. 18th April We transmit you the Accounts of her Expenses here from the Several Offices as also Captain Skottowe Account the Ballance of which he has requested We may desire to be paid him in England.

43. From the Calculate of the Tonnage laden on the Royal George, and a Survey made on her stowage by the Master Attendant, it Appears that She does not carry near the Burden which She is sett down for in your Letters.
 18th April We request therefore that you will favor us with your Directions how many Tons should be Allowed in this, or any other of the Company's Own Ship, for Stores, Provisions, and Priviledge, and how much Cargo should be laden on board on Your Account.

44. In each of these Ships We have forwarded for your Honors Inspection a Muster of the Powder made by Mr. Smith.

45. We have embark'd on board these Ships forty French Prisoners and Twenty Invalids of his Majestys Regiments, together with Three Officers and three Sergeants who came Out with Draughts for the Troops in India; For the Particulars of all which We referr you to the usual Lists transmitted in their Packets.

46. We have likewise sent you in their Packets Copies of the Restitution Accounts which were promis'd in the Letter by the Ship Admiral Watson.

47. We have laden and consign'd to your Honors on these Ships Sundry Goods and Merchandize Amounting to Current Rupees 12,82,400-0-0 Vizt. In the Royal George Current Rupees 5,52,800-0-0 In the Earl of Ashburnham Current Rupees 729,600-0-0 the Particulars whereof are Agreeable to their Respective Invoices and first Bills of Lading.

48. We have also laden on them Sundry Stores for the use of the Island of St. Helena Amounting in all to Current Rupees 2745-11-5 Agreeable to the Invoices and Bills of Lading enclosed to the Deputy Governor and Council there.

49. Since Writing the above We have receiv'd a Letter from Major
 18th April Adams acquainting Us that the Danish Zemindar had been at Ghyrottee and made the Acknowledgement

which was required to the Commanding Officer and that he had therefore Ordered the Seapoys which had shut up the Avenues of the Town to be withdrawn.

50. The President this day laid before us a Letter for your Honors requesting your Permission to leave India the end of the Year 1764. The said Letter is enter'd in our Consultation and forwarded in Duplicate by these Packetts.

51. In the same Consultation is enter'd a Letter from Captain Fenwick on the Subject whereof We request your Directions.

We are

Fort William,
the 18th April 1763.

May it please Your Honors
Your faithful humble Servants

Transmitted
Origl. P Royal George
Dup. P Earl of Ashburnham
Trip. Overland Via Madrass
Quadrup. Do. Do.

Henry Van Sittart/Stanlake Batson/William
Billers/John Cartier/Warren Hastings/John
Johnstone/ Randolph Marriott/Hugh Watts

Postscript

We have drawn upon your Honors by these Ships 48 Setts of Bills of Exchange at 365 Days and the usual Terms the Particulars whereof are as follows And Amount in all to Current Rupees 4,75,073-14-6 Or £Str. 55,425-5-9.

At 365 Days

Setts	To Whom Granted	To Whom Payable	CRs.	£Str.
1.	To Clement Crooke Acct. Mr. John Davidson	To Mr. Henry Davidson Account Mr. Robert Davidson	857 2 3	100 0 0
1.	To Mr. Thomas Cooke Acct. Mr. Andrew Ross	To Capt. Frederick Gurtler & Capt. Leonard Parrot or Either of their Orders	20,142 13 9	2350 0 0
1.	To Do. Do.	To Hugh Ross Esqr.	7188 7 6	838 12 14
1.	To Mrs. Mary Hunt	To Capt. Charles Ray- mond & Capt. Ed- ward Lord Chick or Either of their Orders	857 2 3	100 0 0
1.	To Samuel Ardley Esqr.	To Messrs. Godfrey Kettle & John Ard- ley or Either of their Orders	857 2 3	100 0 0
1	To Wm. Mc.Gwire Esqr. Acct. the Estate of Richd. Wilder Decd.	To Arthur Annesley Esqr.	2245 15 9	262 0 7

At 365 Days

Setts	To Whom Granted	To Whom Payable	C.Rs.	£Str.
1.	To Mr. Charles Child Acct. Mr. Thomas Bristow	To Richard Bristow	270 0 0	31 10 0
1.	To Mr. John Corsar	To Mr. Samuel Hannay & Messrs. Edie & Laird	4285 11 6	500 0
1.	To Mrs. Elizabeth Fenwick	To Charles Raymond Esqr.	642 13 9	75 0 0
1.	To Mr. William Bolts	To Himself or Order	428 9 0	50 0 0
1.	To Mr. John Robinson	To Christopher Baron Esqr. & Doctor George Mac Accley	857 2 3	100 0 0
1.	To Mr. Russell Skinner	To Mrs. Sarah Mapletoft	622 3 3	72 11 9
1.	To Lieut Walter Onge	To Mr. Thomas Barry	1285 11 3	150 0 0
1.	To Mr. Richard Morison	To Wm. Brightwell Sumner Esqr.	2142 13 9	250 0 0
1.	To Do. Do.	To Mr. James Ramsay	1714 4 6	200 0 0
1.	To Messrs. Robt. Gregory & John Wollaston	To Martin Yorke Esqr.	10000 0 0	1166 14 4
1.	To Do. Do.	To Wm. Frankland Esqr.	2837 9 0	331 1 0
1.	To Mr. John Wollaston	To Wm. Davis Esqr.	538 3 3	62 15 9
1.	To Messrs. Senior & Jekyll	To Robt. Halsey Bald- rick	2200 0 0	256 3 4
1.	To Mr. James Lawrell	To Messrs. James Spalding and Samuel Seawell	2023 0 6	236 0 5
1.	To Henry Van Sittart Esqr.	To the Hon'ble Robert Lord Clive	1,45,760 5 3	1,005 7 5
1.	To Mr. Charles Child	To Capt. Lauchlin Mc. Lean Senr.	6951 10 0	811 0
1.	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont, being the Proceeds in full for 1 Chest of Coral Bead Mkd. DF No. 9 Impt. P Fox 1761 P & One Respd. Bond for £560 on the Ship Winchelsea	To Jacob Moseh & Raphel Franco	18131 2 9	2115 6
1.	To Ditto	To Roger Drake Junr. Esqr.	396 3 0	46 4 5
1.	To Ditto	To Thomas Rait Esqr.	5000 0 0	583 6 8
1.	To Mr. James Phillip Lyon	To Messrs. J. Z. Holwell, Wm. Birch and William Davis	8571 6 9	1000 0 0
1.	To Lieut. John Grant	To Colonel Eyre Coote	7405 4 3	863 18 11
1.	To Ditto Acct. Major Thos. Adams being the amot. of the Estate of Capt. D nl. Sullivan Deceased	To Alexander Mangen Esqr.	857 2 3	100 0 0

At 365 days

Setts.	To Whom Granted	To Whom Payable	CRs.	£Str.
1.	To Lieut. John Grant. Acct. Lt. John Stables	To Mrs. Isabella Bambrige	1080 0 0	126 0 0
1.	To Henry Van Sittart Esqr.	To the Hon'ble Robt. Lord Clive	15584 5 3	1818 3 5
1.	To Do. Do.	To John Walsh & Thos. Mausell Esqrs. Executors to the Estate of Major Killpatrick Deceased	6607 9 0	770 17 4
1.	To Do. Do.	To Josias Dupre & Wm. Alexander Esqr. or either of their Orders	12812 13 9	1494 16 8
1.	To Do. Do. in full Return of a Chest of Coral Mark* No. 2 Imported 1 st Ship Fox 1761	To Messrs. Jacob Mosch and Raphael Franco	12386 6 6	1445 1 7
1.	To Do. Do.	To Arthur Van Sittart and Edmund Boehm Esqrs.	17142 13 9	2000 0 0
1.	To Do. Do.	To Sir Richard Case Bar- onet, Charles Raymond and Edwd. Raby Esqrs. Executors to the Estate of Capt. Wm. Hutchin- son Deceased	8571 6 9	1000 0 0
1.	To Warren Hastings Esqr.	To Mr. Hugh Baillie	422 9 0	49 5 11
1.	To Mr. William Magee	To Thomas Boddam Esqr.	7642 9 3	891 12 8
1.	To Ditto	To Thomas Maunsell Esqr.	8541 12 0	996 10 9
1.	To Ditto	To Wm. Magee	4209 7 0	491 9 0
1.	To Do. Acct. the Estate of Wm. Lampert	To Wm. Lampert	3217 4 9	375 7 0
1.	To Mr. Richd. Barwell Acct. Mr. Thomas Motte	To Mr. Charles Bathurst	2000 0 0	233 6 8
1.	To Hugh Watts Esqr. Acct. Harry Verelst Esqr.	To Messrs. Richard Becher and William Nixon	17142 13 9	2000 0 0
1.	To Do. & Anselm Beaumont	To William Mackett Esqr.	2895 9 0	337 16 3
1.	To Mr. William Magee	To Charles Hunter	1410 10 3	164 11 6
1.	To Capt. Thomas Pearce	To John Hallett Esqr.	10285 11 6	1200 0 0
1.	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont Acct. the Estate of John Smith Decd.	To Messrs. David Rannie and David Johnstone	2555 3 0	298 2 1
1.	To Henry Van Sittart Esqr.	To Solomon Ashley, Thomas Collett, John Powell, & David Trinder Owners of Ship Norfolk.	80000 0 0	9333 6 8
1.	To Mr. Anselm Beaumont	To George Challoner Esqr.	5494 14 0	641 1 4
48 Setts.		Current Rupees	475073 14 6	55425 5 9

*Trade symbol.

The Total Amount of Bills drawn on Your Honors by the Ships of this Season is Current Rupees. 25,03,306-15-2 or £str. 2,92,052-4-4

	CRs.	£Str.
By the Admiral Watson and Godolphin	2,58,207 10 9	30,124 4 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
By the Tilbury	13,91,251 0 8	162,312 11 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
By the Drake and Hardwick	3,78,774 5 3	441,190 2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
By the Royal George and Earl of Ashburnham.	4,75,073 14 6	55,425 5 9

We are

May it Please Your Honors,
Your Faithful Humble Servants,

Fort William,
the 18th April 1763

Henry Van Sittart/Stanlake Batson/William
Billers/John Cartier/Warren Hastings/John
Johnstone/Randolph Mariott/Hugh Watts.

37

LETTER DATED 18 APRIL 1763

Vansittart seeks permission to retire by the end of 1764.

TO the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble the United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

[1]. As you have been pleased to direct that any Members of your Council who intend to quit India shall give a Year's Notice of such Intention, you will expect it the more from your Governor and I chuse rather to address you in such time that I may have the Satisfaction of receiving your approbation before my Departure.

[2]. I therefore take this opportunity of requesting your Permission to return to England by the Ships which will be dispatched about the end of the Year 1764. Frequent Nervous complaints give me reason to apprehend I shall with difficulty be able to support myself untill then under the fatigues of the place. I have the honor to hold in your service, Fatigues which have been and are the severer upon me, on account of the disagreeable Circumstances that have attended me for the most part of my Administration, in which although I flatter myself every thing has been conducted to the Company's best advantage, yet the disputes that have happened have rendered my Situation uneasy. The Injury done me by Mr. Batson in Consultation the 12th Instant, is so remarkable that I cannot help complaining of it in a particular manner¹.

[3]. I have served you always with Zeal, Diligence and Integrity, of which however I have no room to speak, as Your Favors have so far exceeded my utmost hopes and Pretensions.

[4]. I beg leave to assure you that I shall ever remember those favors with the most Dutiful Gratitude, and that I am with the greatest respect.

Fort William,
18th April 1763.
[Per Lapwing]

Honourable Sirs,
Your Faithful and most Obedient humble Servant
Henry Van Sittart

38

LETTER DATED 20 APRIL 1763

Deputation of Hay and Amyatt.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Hon'ble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indiess.

May it please Your Honors,

We this Day received a Letter from the Nabob in Answer to that which the President wrote him on the 1st Instant and the same having been fully considered and debated at the Board We now enclose you Copies of the said Letter and Our Consultation. By the Latter your Honors will perceive that it has been recommended to Messrs Amyatt and Hay to proceed on their Deputation and We hope that their personal Interview with the Nabob will have the desired Effect.

We are

Fort William,
the 20 April 1763.

Origl. Per Royal George
Dup. P. Ashburnham
Trip. Overland Via Madrass
Quadrup.—Do. Do.

May it please your Honors'
Your faithfull humble Servants,
Henry Van Sittart/Stanlake Batson/
William Billers/John Cartier/ Warren
Hastings/ John Johnstone/ Randolph
Marriott/Hugh Watts.

39

LETTER DATED 2 MAY 1763

Mir Qasim's letter to the Court forwarded.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

I received two days ago an address from the Nabob to be forwarded to you and having made a translation¹ with all possible Expedition I now forward the same with the original to Captain Skottowe of the Royal George in hopes of its reaching him before he quits the Pilot.

I thought proper to have the translation read at the Board before I dispatched it which was accordingly done this morning and I flatter myself the Nabob will act with the moderation therein Expressed consenting to all that is required of him until your pleasure is known so that the tranquillity of the Country may not run a risk of being disturbed by any further disputes.

I am with the greatest respect,
Honourable Sirs,

Fort William,
2 May, 1763.

Your most obedient and most humble Servant
Henry Van Sittart.

40

LETTER DATED 20 MAY 1763

Differences of opinion between Vansittart and majority of the Board.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble The United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

1. The Royal George having received her Lading and Dispatches for Europe left Town the 18th of April but in her way down the River by an Accident of missing stays unfortunately fell upon the Gillingam Sand, and was in the utmost danger of being totally lost; however by taking out her Guns staving her Water and otherways lightening her, she was got off with great difficulty and not without Damage, and is returned to Town to be repaired.

2. The Earl of Ashburnham also was loaded and dispatched for Europe at the same time, but the setting in of the Southerley winds which have been uncommonly Vioient and constant has baffled all her attempts to get out of the River, as well as, those of the Boscawen and Osterly bound to Madras with Rice and intended to have been dispatched from thence to China. All three having parted most of their Cables have been obliged to run up to Kedgerree.

3. Both the Royal George and Ashburnham will proceed as soon as the Pilots may think it prudent to attempt going out, but as it is uncertain when

that may be I have prepared Copies of our Advices to be forwarded to you by the way of Madras and Bombay, I find, however that those Advices will be very imperfect without the book of Consultation and of course your Honors will suspend your Opinion of the Questions in dispute with the Country Government untill that book reaches your hands, as well as the Nabob's Letter which I forwarded to you with my address of the 2nd Instant of which a Copy is enclosed. It is the more necessary I should request your Judgement may till then be suspended, because upon most of those Questions my Opinion has differed from that of the Majority, which appears with my reasons in the Consultation Book only; not in the general Letter which is a simple Narrative of the Resolutions of the Majority.

4. In the mean time, I have the pleasure to acquaint you the Country continues in tranquillity and the alarms of the Inhabitants have some what subsided; The Nabob as much as he complains of our proceedings in seizing his Officers &ca having taken no measures to oppose them. I hope he will in like manner acquiesce in everything Messrs. Amyatt and Hay have to propose to him from the Board. Indeed he has no remedy, for his ruin, would be inevitable if he was to come to a Rupture with us.

5. We propose to dispatch the Osterley and Boscawen to Europe with the first of our next Season's Investment, we compute we shall have Cargoes for three Ships besides, of which we have acquainted the Gentlemen at Madras that if the Quantity of Tonnage for the Coast and Bay this Season, should exceed what they and we can provide for, they may despatch the surplus ships to China in lieu of the Osterley and Boscawen that [*sic*] so that you will suffer no Loss in Demurrage by these Ships being thus unavoidably detained here.

Fort William,
20th May 1763.

I am with the greatest Respect,
Honourable Sirs
Your Most Obedient and faithful
humble Servant
Henry Van Sittart.

LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 1763

Detention of many ships—troubles with Mir Qasim affect investment—the Dutch unwilling to help in collecting saltpetre—cessation of hostilities with the French—Vansittart's desire to quit India as early as possible—death of Amyatt—action against Batson for his quarrel with Hastings at Board's meeting.

TO the Honorable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honorable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

May it please Your Honors,

1. Our last Address bore date the 18th of April, and should have waited
 Cons. on you by the Royal George and Ashburnham, but
 16 May these Ships from the accidents We shall hereafter men-
 13 June tion, having been put back and hitherto detained, We
 forwarded the Third and fourth Transcripts of it, and their other Advices to
 Fort St. George to be transmitted to you from thence by the most early Con-
 veyances.

2. We have this season had the Honour to receive your several Com-
 17 June mands bearing Dates the 30 of November 9, 17, 22 and
 14 July 29 of December 1762, and 9 and 31 of March 1763
 18 July with two separate Letters under the same dates.
 7 Sept.

3. These Letters have been transmitted to us at different Times from Fort
 St. George at which place We have the pleasure to inform you that the Ships
 Neptune, Falmouth, Plassey, Hawke, Deptford, Lord
 5 Sept. Clive and Lapwing Snow have safely arrived, and that
 the Deptford having landed her Consignments there has imported with Us.
 We are also advised from Bombay of the arrival there of your Ship Lord
 Mansfield.

4. To the particular subject of these Letters, We shall reply fully, when
 We come to address your Honors on the whole Transactions of the year con-
 fining ourselves for the present to some general and necessary Advices.

5. The Ship Royal George having received her full Cargo on board,
 was dispatched from Town to proceed on her Voyage, but in her way down
 the River the ship missing Stays, was unfortunately driven
 9 May upon the Gillingham Sand where she lay several Days,
 and was in the utmost danger of being totally lost. However by staving the
 Water Casks, and otherwise lightening her, she was got off but received so
 much Damage, that she was obliged to return to town to get repaired.

6. For the further particulars of this unlucky Disaster, We refer you to
 Captain Skottowe's and the Master Attendant's Letters
 9 & 16 and the Reports of the Pilot and officers, enter'd after
 May our Consultations of the 9 and 16 of May. By these
 the principal Causes of it appearing to have rested on Daniel Thompson the
 Pilot; He was called before the Board and severely reprimanded for hi
 Want of Care and Attention, which Check We were induced to think
 sufficient on account of his long Services.

7. The Ship Earl of Ashburnham having been also laden for Europe
 her dispatches were sent down to her at Ingerlee, but
 23rd May through the great Violence of the Southerly Winds,
 having lost most of her Anchors and Cables, She

failed in the attempt of getting out of the River, and put back to Kedgerce, as appears by the Commander's Letter dated the 15 of May and entered after our Consultation of the 23rd.

8. The Detention of the Boscawen and Osterly was likewise occasioned by similar Circumstances, for altho' they were dispatched for Fort St. George as you have already been advised, the 4 of April and had
 Cons. 2 May orders to proceed with as much Rice as the Weather might permit them to take on board, Yet the unfavorable Winds prevented their leaving Ingerlee before the end of the month; and then meeting with very blowing weather before they were clear of the Sands, they were obliged to put back into the River. And as it was impossible for them, on account of the Season of the Year, and a Deficiency of Cables, which could not be supplied, to make a fresh attempt for gaining their Passage to the Coast we immediately took into Consideration in what manner to dispose of those Ships so as to render their Detention in the River of as little Inconvenience as possible to the Company, and prevent to the utmost of our power any Loss by Demorage. Judging, therefore from a Calculate of the Investment ordered for the ensuing Season that We should be able to give a Loading to five Ships, We resolved that the Osterly and Boscawen should be dispatched from hence directly to Europe with earliest part of it, and gave Notice accordingly to the President and Council of Fort St. George recommending to them to regulate themselves in Conformity to our said Advices and to dispatch to China as Surplus Ships so many of the present Season's Coast and Bay Ships as they would find upon this Calculate to be unprovided for, on this side of India.

9. Having given Notice to the Commanders of the Osterly and Boscawen of their intended Destination for Europe they re-
 16 May quested Permission to bring their Ships up to Town to prepare them for the Voyage.

10. We are very sensible that this Detention of so many Ships beyond their proper Season must be very unexpected and prove a considerable Disadvantage to the Company. However, it is an Event that could neither be foreseen or prevented. The principal Cause of the late dispatch of the Charter-Party Ships, being the late Cruize which the French Squadron made in the Bay, and the great Delay in the Arrival of some Parts of our Investment from the subordinates; The failure of the Royal George, We have great reason to attribute only to the above-mentioned Accident, as it is judged she might otherwise have made good her Passage.

11. The Repair of the Ship having been fully completed, and the present Season admitting of her and the Ashburnham's proceeding to Sea, they are now dispatched accordingly with their former
 12 Sept. Packets and Cargoes and they shall be followed by the Osterly and Boscawen as soon as possible.

12. In the disposition of the rest of the Ships, which may be on our hands this year, We shall observe your Directions for returning as many of them to Europe as possible, but what number that may be, or how those may be employed which shall remain in India, it is not yet in our power to determine as such Settlement will depend chiefly on the State in which We may find our Investment when the affairs of the Country come to be somewhat more settled.

13. The Plassey being the first of the Coast and Bay Ships to come upon Demorage has been detained by the Gentlemen at Fort St. George to be dispatched home from thence in October.

14. We find We shall have upon our hands besides the Osterly and Boscawen, the following Six Ships Vizt. The Deptford,
 Cons. Lord Clive, British King and Pigot for Coast and Bay,
 7 Sept. and the Lord Mansfield and Lord Bute Bombay Ships.
 19 Do. Such of them as cannot be loaded for Europe, We shall use our Endeavors either to employ in India on the Company's Account or on Freight, so as to save their Demorage or else to give them a Stock of money to enable the Supra cargoes to dispatch them home from China.

15. The Reason why the Gentlemen at Fort St. George have not dispatched any of the present Year's Coast and Bay Ships to China in place of the Osterly and Boscawen as We recommended, is that they judge the Number of ships they will have at Canton being fourteen as particularized in their Letter of the 28 of July will be as many as can be provided with Cargoes.

16. In our Separate Letter under this Date, you will be informed of the Troubles Which at present prevail in the Country
 12 Sept. and the Situation of our Affairs with the Country Government. These We are afraid may sensibly affect this year's Investment more especially as the large Expences of the War, has disabled Us from making the necessary Advances. Four Transcripts of the List of Investment have however been forwarded to those Factories which now remain unmolested, and will be Complied with as far as possible.

17. The branches of the Investment, which We are apprehensive may suffer most on this Occasion, are those made in the Calcutta Aurungs, and at the Factories of Cossimbuzar Maulda, and Patna. Towards the first, We have been, able to furnish but a very small sum, and the provision of the Others' being in Places, where the Commotions have principally prevailed We may reasonably expect a Deficiency in many Articles.

18. The members of Cossimbuzar Factory having been made prisoners and carried away by Cossim Aly Cawn, and Mr Batson's Presence being found necessary with the Army,
 11 July
 29 Augt. We appointed Mr. George Gray, who was obliged to
 Do do.

retire from Maulda, to proceed and provisionally take Charge of the Affair at Cossimbuzar. A severe Indisposition, however, having prevented his setting out Mr. Charles Goring is now employed Collecting in what part he can of the Cossimbuzar and Maulda Investments until Mr. Gray's Arrival, to assist him wherein We have published a strict Order forbidding the purchase of any of the Articles by private Merchants.

19. Finding that the Progress of our Army would prove too slow for
 Cons. re-establishing the Factory at Patna in time to make
 5 Sept. the Investment of this Season We judged it proper to address the Dutch, desiring they would Collect in the Salt Petre, which should have belonged to both Factories, and when it could be dispatched down order our Proportion to be delivered to Us.

20. Their Reply is minuted on our Consultation of the 12 Sept. to
 19 Sept. which We beg leave to refer and shall only add that as they seem so little disposed to assist our affairs, We shall use every means possible, to secure still as large a share of this year's Petre as We can, and We have for that purpose wrote to Major Adams to take possession of the Aurungs, and all the Petre which may be collected at them without Loss of Time.

21. On receipt of our Letters of the 30 Novr. 1762 and 31 March last,
 6 June We caused his Majesty's Proclamations for the Ces-
 8 Sept. sation of Arms, and the general Peace to be publicly read, and in Settling the Article respecting the East Indies so far as concerns our Affairs We shall pay due regard to the Instructions in your Separate Letters of the 9 and 31 March.

22. In the 12 and 13 Paragraphs of our last Letter, you were advised
 10 April of our having freighted a Cartel Ship to carry the French
 9th May Prisoners to the Islands and they were accordingly embarked to the Number of about 30 Officers and 100 private Men, but We are sorry to acquaint your Honors that the Ship failed of making her Passage out of the River owing partly to the unwillingness of the Passengers and partly to the great Advance of the Season before she could make a second attempt. The Prisoners were therefore again landed and shall be
 16th May disposed of agreeable to Treaty whenever a Commissary shall arrive, on behalf of the French Nation, but if none Comes before the Dispatch of these Ships, We shall send on them the Number before destined for Europe.

23. We shall use our Endeavours when the Orders come to be issued
 8 Sept. for the return of his Majesty's 84 Regiment to engage as many of the men as We can into your Service. Hitherto We believe Major Adams has not received any immediate Directions on this head, however we have used the precaution to request that he will at all Events suspend issuing such Orders until the principal Objects of the War against Cossim Aly Cawn are attained.

24. We duly observe your Remarks on the Indent for Artillery and military Stores and shall speak more fully thereto in a subsequent Letter. At present We have only to desire that our Want of Arms may be plentifully supplied as our Expence of that Article is very great. From the best judgement We can form We imagine our Demand on this head may amount to five thousand stand annually, and We therefore beg that We may if possible be furnished with that number.

25. By our Consultation of the 11 of August you will observe a Commission as Major on this Establishment has been granted to Capt. Randfurlic Knox and to the Reasons which are there given for this appointment. We have nothing further to add as We doubt not of your Honors acquiescence and Confirmation in reward for the distinguished Merit which Capt. Knox has shewn in the Course of his Service

26. In the 61 Paragraph of our Letter of the 30 Octr. 1762 We mentioned to you that Mary De Lores Suit in regard to the Money of Brohier's which was attached by the Presidency of Bombay had not come to Issue in the Mayor's Court But We are now to inform your Honors that on its being brought to a hearing there a Decree of that Court passed in her Favour from which Decree the attorney for the Company having appealed to us, as a Court of Appeals. We thought proper to reverse the same and gave a judgement in favour of the Company with Costs of Suit for the reasons particularly recited in the Decree. Mary De Lore has now lodged a Petition of Appeal to the King which we imagine will be sent home by this Packet and We have therefore ordered the Company's attorney to transmit our Answer with the other necessary Papers for finishing the Cause in England.

27. We beg leave to refer you to our Separate Letters upon Country Affairs for the Presidents several Declarations concerning the present Troubles We shall only here notice to you at his Request that it is his Intention for the reasons mentioned in his Minute of the 20 of June to quit the Chair as soon as the Dangers of the War are over, and your affairs restored to a State of Security. This he hopes will be the case in very few months, for not only the Reasons before referred to, but the Consideration of his Health which has suffered by repeated attacks during all the hot Season, urge him strongly to take his Passage for Europe on one of the Ships of the present year. And there being no longer a doubt that Mr. Amyatt lost his Life in the treacherous attack made on him near Murshedabad on his Return from Mongheer it becomes necessary that your Honors take the first Opportunity of signifying your pleasure, as to the Succession to the Government of this Presidency.

28. In this place Mr. McGwire desires we will repeat to your Honors his determined Resolution of leaving India this Season for the reasons mentioned in his minute of the 14 July.

29. The Commencement of hostilities between us and the late Nabob Cossim Aly Cawn having put a Period tho' an unhappy one to all disputes and differences of Opinion concerning the Affairs of the Country Government we beg leave to pass over in Silence all particulars of that Kind that happened before referring you to our above mentioned separate Letter for a Detail of the Resolutions taken by the Majority of the Board, and the Occurrences which followed, and to the Consultations pointed out in the said Letter for the Dissents of any Member from the Opinion of the Majority. Our said Letter being a Detail of Facts may serve for a Memorial of the Causes and Consequences of this unhappy Event.

30. One Dispute however, happened at the Board of so extraordinary a Nature as cannot but be particularly noticed. The 10 of June the President being indisposed and absent, and Mr. Batson in the Chair a Difference arose between him and Mr. Hastings, Which was Carried to a very indecent Length. The rest of the Members immediately ordered them both to retire to their several Houses, and the next Consultation the 13 of June the affair being taken into Consideration it was resolved by a Majority of the Board that Mr. Batson could not suffer a less Censure than Suspension from your Service and he was accordingly suspended but the next Consultation the 17 of June upon a Letter delivered in by Mr. Batson acknowledging his Fault and praying his Case might be reconsidered it was resolved again by a Majority that the Suspension should be taken off and he was accordingly readmitted into the Service with a Rule however that he should not sit again at the Board but give his opinion in writing as the President declared he would not sit in Council with one who had been guilty of such an Offence, As the several Consultations before mentioned treat of this Matter very fully We shall leave you to them for what further particulars may be necessary for enabling your Honors to form a proper judgement of the Affair.

31. Amongst the Accounts Expences of the Royal George forwarded in her former Packet we transmitted Capt. Skottowe's Account Current, and at his Request desired you would be pleased to discharge the Ballance thereof in England; but the unexpected Detention of the Ship having since obliged him to apply to us for payment of that Ballance
 Cons. 22 Augt. here, We have paid the same accordingly, and stated it in the Additional Accounts of the Ships Expences all of which are now forwarded.

32. On our Consultation of the 23rd of May you will observe an Account of the Damage which ensued to the Cargoes from the Royal George's Misfortune. When the Ship came to be
 23rd May reloaded We ordered that these Goods should be
 22 Augt. replaced by others of the same Value and Quality out of the Warehouse; this has accordingly been Observed as far as possible, and her present Cargo amounts as Per Invoice to CRs. 565300,

33. After the Ashburnham's former dispatch in Council, We resolved to send down to her fifty more Bales upon an Additional Invoice in order to replace any part of her Cargo which might from the
 25 April Season of the year, receive Damage, and be returned or if that did not prove the Case, to be loaded on board of her as Surplus Tonnage; and these Bales having been accordingly received into the Ship we now permit them to remain, on account of the Trouble which would occur in the unstowing and bringing of them back to Town. The Invoice of them is herewith transmitted, which makes her Cargo amount in all to C Rs 7,69,700

Vizt. her former Invoice CRs. 7,29,600
 Invoice of these 50 Bales 40,100.

34. We have chose to omit sending you the usual list of Covenanted Servants, untill the next Ship, on account of the uncertain Situation which many of them are now in.

35. We have delivered to each of the Captains a fresh set of Sailing Order drawn up agreeable to the Instructions in your Letter of the 30 of November and We transmit a copy of them as usual in their respective Packets.

We are

May it please your Honors

Your most Faithful Humble
 Servants,

Fort William,
 the 29 Sept. 1763.
 Original Per Royal George
 Duplicate Per Ashburnham
 Triplicate Per Osterley

Henry Van Sittart/William Mc Gwire^c
 William Billers/John Cartier/Warren Hastings/Randolph Marriott/Hugh Watts.

LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 1763

Mir Qasim refuses to comply with Company's demands—seizure of arms at Monghyr—arrest of the Jagat Seths—war preparations in Patna—dissenting opinion of Vansittart—final efforts for settlement of disputes—Mir Qasim insists on removal of Ellis—Hay detained as hostage—commencement of hostilities—decision to reinstate Mir Jafar—Amyatt killed—Mir Qasim's attack on Patna, Cossimbazar and Dacca—terms of treaty with Mir Jafar—Maj. Adams' operations against Mir Qasim—Mir Qasim threatens to kill European prisoners—Adams and Carnac praised—measures for defence of Calcutta—formation of 3rd artillery company.

TO the Honorable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honorable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies

May it please Your Honors,

1. Our Separate Letters, upon the Affairs of the Country Government, dated the 18 and 20 of April go in Duplicate in the Packets of the Royal George and Ashburnham but upon those Ships failing in their Attempts to get out of the River, We forwarded two Other Copies of our said Advices to Madrass to be transmitted to your Honors by the earliest Opportunities that might offer, it is therefore probable one of them might reach you before the Arrival of these Ships.

2. In those Letters you will be informed of the Disputes which had arisen between Us, and the Nabob Cossim Aly Cawn, the Animosities and Jealousies which ensued, and which began to appear in his Actions and Declarations.

3. It is with infinite Concern we are now to acquaint you, that those Animosities have ended in an Open War, a War too which, although We have all reason to trust by the Prudence of our Officers and the Bravery of our Troops will be brought to a successful Issue, yet in its beginning, it was attended with some unfortunate Circumstances greatly to be lamented, and in its Consequences it must be expected will leave the Country in a State of Confusion which it may take Time to remedy.

4. You have been acquainted that in the Course of these Disputes with the Country Government many differences of Opinion arose amongst the Members of the Board, and some of these Opinions were so warmly espoused that the mutual Regard due from one to another was sometimes forgot, however all those differences were lost in the general Concern when hostilities commenced and the Endeavors of all were immediately united in prosecuting the war with Vigor. With the same Sentiments of Concern for the misfortunes which have happened and the Unanimity in pursuing the most expedient measures for restoring Tranquility to the Country and Security to the Company's Interests. We shall proceed to lay before your Honors a candid and explicit Account of the Facts as they Occurred and of the Resolutions taken by the Majority of the Board, referring to the Book of Consultations for the Reasons delivered in on every Occasion by those members who differed from the Majority and concluding with a Detail of the Events of the War to the Time of closing our Address.

5. In Consequence of the Resolution of the 20 April, Messrs. Amyatt and Hay set out from Moorshedabad the 25 of April, and arrived at Mongheer the 12 of May without any Material Occurrence
 Cons. 20 April on the Road. They were received by the Nabob with the usual Marks of Ceremony and respect and from what passed at their first general Conversations, when they opened to him the Business of their Visit, they were in hopes that the Differences might be amicably adjusted. But finding that from such general Conferences they would not be able to bring their Business to a Period they thought best to deliver him in

writing a Compleat Copy of their Instructions, with a Paper Comprehending the Demands contained there in Eleven distinct Articles.

6. They waited some days for the Nabob's Answer, and then received a Paper containing an Answer to each Article In which he endeavored to prove by all the Arguments he could make use of the Unreasonableness of our Demands alledging with respect to the Article of Trade that all Duties being abolished, there was no further Room left for dispute on the subject, regarding the other Articles that some of them were unjust and unnecessary Innovations that the Grounds of the rest had proceeded from the bad Behaviour of our own Agents and Dependants and that as he had never deviated on his part from his Agreement he refused Complying with any of the Demands or entering into any new Treaty, and answers appearing at length both on the face of our Consultations and the Books of Mr. Amyatt's Country Correspondence we refer to them for the particular Contents.

7. About the same Time a Supply of 500 Stand of Arms going to Patna was stopped by the Nabob's Officers at Mongheer. Mr. Amyatt applied in vain for their Release and therefore represented to the Nabob, that this Step so unwarrantable between Friends being accompanied with a general denial to the Demands he had made rendered it unnecessary and improper that he should remain longer in the Quality of Ambassador at his Court that he had transmitted these Answers to the Council at Calcutta and desired his leave to return.

8. The Nabob in answer to this wrote to Mr. Amyatt in plain Terms that he would not comply with any of our Demands or release the Arms unless that our Troops which he alledged did create daily Disturbances at Patna were recalled to Mongheer where too, if they were intended for his Service, he said they would be more properly stationed. He concluded however with a desire that Mr. Amyatt would wait for Orders from Calcutta as he had transmitted the Answers there for the Consideration of the Board.

9. Whilst Messrs. Amyatt and Hay remained at Moorshedabad, they wrote us word that the Nabob had seized Jaggut Seat, and his Brother and carried them off Prisoners to Mongheer; and that the reason assigned for this ill Treatment of those Persons was their supposed connexion with and Friendship for the English. Altho' We never held any Intercourse with the Seats in point of Business. Yet We thought it incumbent on us on account of their Rank and Reputation in the Country to endeavor to prevent their meeting with any harm, and therefore to represent to the Nabob as well immediately through the President as by Messrs. Amyatt and Hay when they should arrive at Mongheer, that as this was the first Indignity of the Kind these Gentlemen had ever suffered it would of Course prove a great reproach

to his Government. That it was besides the breach of a promise he had made the President at the time of his appointment to the Subahdarree and that we therefore advise his setting them at Liberty to enjoy unmolested their own property wherever they might please to reside. This representation was accordingly made by Letter both from the President and Mr. Amyatt, and inserted among the other Articles of Demands presented to the Nabob. Who answered that he meant them no harm but that he should insist on their residing wherever he did alledging it was the Custom and accordingly he kept them at Mongheer.

10. Frequent were the Complaints We received from the Chief and Council at Patna both before and after Mr. Amyatt's arrival at Mongheer of the Interruptions given by the Government's People to their Salt Petre and Ophium Business, and at two different Times, small parties of our Seapoys were engaged in Skirmishes with some of the Nabob's Troops as mentioned in the 29 and 35 Paragraphs of our Letter of the 18 of April. The Chief and Council advised us at the same time of several Reinforcements being sent from different parts of the Naib [*Niabat*] at Patna, representing that they imagined hostilities were intended against our Detachment and desirine Orders for their Conduct in such an Event.

11. In Consultation the 14 of April Major Adams being present. Major Carmac [*Carnac*] Indisposed we agreed on a plan of Operations in case of a Rupture with the Nabob, and in consequence sent 4 April Directions to the Chief and Council at Patna, that upon such an Event they should attack and take possession of the City of Patna, if they thought themselves equal to the Undertaking. If not, that they should make Choice of a Post, which might be judged best capable of Defence, and there maintain themselves until they received Succours waiting in both Cases for further Orders from Major Adams, who would march with all Expedition with the Army from thence. But they were particularly cautioned, and directed not to understand a Rupture declared by Notice from Us, contenting themselves in the mean Time with protecting, and defending the Companys Interests against any Injuries. This Restriction and Caution We judged might be given with entire Security as We esteemed the Detachment of Troops upon that Station sufficiently strong to defend themselves against any Force the Nabob could send to attack them. By a return dated the 30 April the last received from thence their Forces consisted of two hundred and Twenty Europeans Infantry fifty seven Artillery and two Thousand seven hundred and Nine Seapoys not including twenty-seven Commissioned Officers. A Copy of the said Return is enclosed in the Packet.

12. After the Paper of Answers mentioned to be given by the Nabob to Mr. Amyatt there ensued Breach not only of the Intercourse between them, but also of the usual and common Civilities in so much that Messrs

Amyatt and Hay were treated with the greatest Slight and some of the Gentlemen suffered at different Times very unbecoming Affronts from his People in passing the different out Posts.

13. This was the Situation of Affairs when We came to consider of the whole in Consultation of the 9 of June and determine what measures were proper to be taken with the Nabob, it was then agreed and resolved that We should not consent to the Removal of the Troops from Patna whether the Nabob complied with our Demands or not, That therefore in case he insisted on such Preliminary or refused to release the Boats with the arms, Messrs Amyatt and Hay should immediately return to Calcutta and this without taking Leave of the Nabob if they thought it unsafe to declare their Intention That Immediately on their quitting Mongheer they were to advise Us and the Gentlemen at Patna directing them to be upon their Guard and act as they judged most proper for their own Security in case the Nabob should march or send Troops to attack them. A Copy of these Orders were also dispatched to the Chief and Council at Patna, with Directions to regulate themselves as they might be advised by Messrs Amyatt and Hay. At the Time of this Meeting The President being indisposed sent his Sentiments in writing which differ in some points from the Resolutions of that Day, as will appear by the Minute.

14. The Resolutions of the Majority being Communicated in the Evening to the President. He observed that he thought there was from them no Room left for an accommodation even if the Nabob should be found in a better Disposition. Messrs. Amyatt and Hay not being authorized to offer him any Satisfactory answer to the Demands and Complaints on his part He (the President), therefore, directed the Secretary to desire Mr. Batsom [Batson], who presided in his absence to summon a Council the ensuing day and delay the dispatch of the Letters till then, Which being accordingly done The President sent in a Letter containing his Sentiments on the further Instructions which he therefore thought might be given to Messrs Amyatt and Hay.

15. These being considered by the Members of the Board it was agreed to write further to Messrs Amyatt and Hay That in case the Arms were released and the Nabob in a disposition to treat further without insisting on the removal of the Troops from Patna as a Preliminary, they might assure him with respect to his Demand on that head. That the Troops were stationed there for the Security of his Government and to maintain Tranquility in the Country and that they should be employed only in conformity to that view. That they might received [sic] from the Nabob his more particular Objections to the Demands of the Board, and transmit them to Us. When We should determine which of them must still be insisted on and which Might be abated of. That with respect to Mahomed Aly the Naib at Dacca, and other Officers of the Government detained at Calcutta. We were willing to send them up to have their

Behaviour enquired into in presence of the Nabob, if they thought it advisable and lastly that they might receive from the Government's Officers the account of the Losses they alledged they had sustained by the Violencies of the English agents and Gomastas and that We should cause full satisfaction to be made for whatever should be proved.

16. From this Time forward We received fresh accounts from Mongheer of the little Confidence the Nabob seemed to place in us—his ill-disposition towards our Affairs, and that in their Opinion a War was unavoidable—We also were advised from Patna, that the Nabob's People were endeavouring to debauch our Seapoys, in so much that from the 1 to the 6 of June Two hundred had deserted, and which had induced Mr. Ellis to issue Orders for the Detachment's holding themselves in readiness for immediate Service as there by entitling them to Batta might be the means to prevent any further Desertion As yet every thing remained quiet in the Neighbourhood of Calcutta and Burdwan, however, the necessary preparations were making to secure against a contrary Event altho We still hoped, from our last Orders that an Accommodation might be effected.

17. The first Intimation We had, that the Nabob's Intentions were certainly hostile, was by Messrs Amyatt and Hay's Letters of the 11 of June
 Cons. 18 June These appeared to us so positive, that We esteemed it necessary to form an immediate disposition of our Forces, and Concert Measures for the future Government of the Country, in case a War did actually ensue, and the removal of the Nabob from the Subahdarry should be the Issue as also for reimbursing the public Expences of this War and the private Losses which would be inevitably sustained in the Country. Accordingly in Consultation the 18 of June We resolved on such a Plan for the Operations of the Army, As We thought would best tend to the Security of the Company's Lands and the Protection of the Investment and as the first Step to be taken agreeable to this Disposition We ordered Capt. Knox's Detachment then stationed at Jallesore to march as far to the North ward as Midnapore and there wait further Orders.

18. That We had thus disposed of our Forces We immediately advised Messrs Amyatt and Hay informing them however that it would be with great Reluctance We made any Motions untill We heard of their being in a place of Safety and We at the same time gave them the necessary Answers to some further Complaints made by the Nabob, in case he should still be inclined to alter his Temper and proceed in the Treaty regarding the Government of the Country and the Other Points the several Members were then desired to prepare their Sentiments The Result of Which We shall have occasion to mention upon our coming to the Period when that Matter was finally settled.

19. The next Letters from Mongheer served only to confirm our opinion that the Nabob would not come to Terms, as upon the Delivery of a Letter from the President, which represented to him the unlawfulness of detaining

the Arms, that no Friendship could subsist between us during so hostile an Action, and that We would never Submit to call our Troops from Patna on the footing of a Preliminary Demand. We immediately declared to Messrs. Amyatt and Hay there was War : adding that his reason for demanding the recall of our Troops was, that he knew Mr Ellis to be his avow'd Enemy and would employ them to the detriment of his Affairs, and that therefore We would not consent to remove the Troops. He insisted they should be put under the Direction of another Chief, That this might cause a Change in the Face of Affairs between Us. But that if from the Resolution of the Council neither of these Demands were granted He would give Mr. Amyatt a passport to proceed to Calcutta with his Party detaining only Mr. Hay, as a hostage for Mahomed Aly, and the rest of his Aumils Prisoners with Us. These Gentlemen [*sic*] further intimated that they understood the Nabob's view in this Detention of Mr. Hay to be principally the Safety of Coja Petruse and therefore recommended the immediate confining of that Man as a Necessary Security for Mr Hay who had consented to remain—However as We had no real Certainty for this Suspicion We thought it sufficient to desire that the President would keep such a watch upon Petruse as to prevent his quitting the Settlement.

20. We also received Letters from Mr. Johnstone at Burdwan which contained Intelligence that the Nabob was marching Bodies of Troops toward the Frontiers of that Province from Moorshedabad
 Cons. 23d June and therefore, desired that We would take Measure to oppose their Progress and prevent any ill-Effect which such Motions would naturally have on the Collections. We accordingly orderd Capt Knox to continue his March to Burdwan, and there Co-operate with Mr. Johnstone in preventing any Inroads to the Injury of the Province; and for the same purpose We directed another Detachment to march from Ghyrottee and take post at Amboa, the Boundary of the Burdwan Province towards the River and Eastward.

21. Just after these Orders had been issued, We received further Letters from Messrs Amyatt and Hay Which brought us the unexpected advice of the Nabob's having released the Arms, and thereby gave us hopes that the Negotiation might still go on, but by the very next
 27th June Consultations receiving confirmed Intelligence from Cos-
 30th June simbuzar that our Dawk Cossais were drove from their
 2d July Stations and our Correspondence by that means put an entire stop to, and as We at the same Time had Letters from the Nabob enclosing others from the Naib at Patna, which intimated that he expected an attack on the City. We concluded that an open Rupture had accordingly broke out there, and We therefore Ordered the Body of the Army from Ghyrottee to be put in Motion as fast as possible and march towards Cossimbuzar; which Measure We the more readily adopted, as, had any Intelligence arrived from Mongheer to have

given Us fresh hopes of accommodation it would have been in our power to have stopped the Progress of the Troops before they had gone beyond our own Territories.

22. Alarms from henceforward continued to increase and Confirm our Belief that We must of Necessity engage in a War, for a note which was received the 4 of July in the Morning, acquainted Us, Cons. 4th July that they esteemed themselves Prisoners and that the Arms had been again stopt By the report of the Hircara who brought this Note We were also informed that at Patna hostilities had actually commenced between the Nabob's and our Forces, and that Mr. Amyatt had in consequence made his Retreat thither.

23. The Gentlemen at Patna in answer to our Letter of the 14 of April acquainted Us that they thought these Orders layed them under too great a Restraint, and would prevent them taking any advantages which might offer in case they came to act 9th May more especially as on account of the daily Insults they 4th July suffered from the Nabob's People, it appeared to them that they might in the end be necessitated to possess themselves of the City. Calling to mind these Circumstances, and those mentioned in the 21st Paragraph, We were readily induced to give Credit to the present Report, and therefore resolved that the Army should proceed with all Expedition to Mongheer.

24. In consequence of the Resolution mentioned in the 18 Paragraph, The Several Members on the 20 of June delivered in writing their Sentiments on the plan of Government which should take 20th June place in case of a Resolution in the present and also on the other Points, which they were required to speak to, The President in his minute beg'd Leave to decline giving any opinion with regard to the Settlement of the Country declaring that it was his Intention to quit the Chair as soon as the War could be brought to an Issue, and that he therefore left it to the other Members on whom would rest the future management of Affairs, to determine in this Point. For his more particular Reasons as well as for the Substance of the Opinions of the other Members, We refer you to the Minutes themselves entered at large on the face of that day's Consultation.

25. These having been read and debated on at the Board. They were then ordered to lay for Consideration as it was judged proper to employ a further Time in resolving on a Matter of so much Importance particularly in hopes of being assisted with the Opinion of Mr. Amyatt at his Arrival. But as the Situation of affairs was become too urgent to admit of any Delay, the Subject was resumed in 4th July Consultation the 4 of July, and having been again fully considered and debated The President and Mr. Hastings

remaining Neuter, it was the Unanimous Opinion of the other Members that the former Nabob Meer Jaffier should be restored to the Government. Upon his entering into a new Treaty which should contain such Articles as were thought necessary for the Company's Interests, and for preventing any further Disturbances in the Country A Committee of the Board were accordingly appointed to draw up a Plan of Articles to that Effect.

26. We come now to the Period of the Misfortunes which befell Us in the beginning of this War; Misfortunes which as often as We call them to Mind renew in Us Sentiments of the greatest Concern. The first of these is the Loss of Mr. Amyatt an Event which proved the more effecting, as it was entirely unexpected, and attended with such Circumstances of Treachery and Cruelty as must greatly increase the Concern We should have felt at the Loss of so good a Servant to the Company, and so worthy a Member of our Society, had such a Misfortune happened to Us in the Common Course of Nature. Having taken Leave of the Nabob the 24 of June and received the usual Passports he set out in Boats for Calcutta accompanied with Messrs. Amphlett, Wollaston and Hutchinson Lieuts Jones, Gordon and Cooper, and Doctor Crooke, Mr. Hay remained with the Nabob as mentioned in the 19 Paragraph and Mr. Gulston staid to accompany him. We received a Letter from Mr. Amyatt dated at Seip-gunge the 25 of June, and another dated the 30 near Sootee, in which last he acquainted Us he should proceed to Cossimbuzar, and leaving his Escort there, as We had directed make the best of his Way to Calcutta. We were expecting, therefore, to hear of his Arrival at Cossimbuzar when we were on the contrary advised by a Letter from the Gentlemen of that Factory, dated in the Evening of the 3rd of July that his Boats had been attacked that Morning as they were passing the City of Moorshed-abad that Lieut Cooper, and some of the Seapoys had been Killed, and the rest of the Party made Prisoners. A Report prevailed immediately after that Mr. Amyatt was among the killed, but this Circumstance was not confirmed to Us till the 7th when We were informed by Mr. Johnstone at Burdwan, that a Jemautdar with some of the Seapoys of the Party had arrived there and acquainted him that as the Boats were passing the City depending on their Passports, and free from any Suspicion of Treachery, they were fired upon by a Number of Troops assembled for that purpose on both sides of the River, and some of the Gentlemen killed in the Boats that Mr. Amyatt immediately put to his Boat, and landed with a few Seapoys which he forbid to Fire, and endeavoured to make Enemy's Troops understand that he was furnished with the Nabob's Passports, and had no design of Committing any hostilities. But the horse advancing some of the Seapoys fired notwithstanding Mr. Amyatts Orders, and a general Confusion ensuing Mr. Amyatt and most of the small Party who were with him were cut to Pieces All accounts agree that three or four other of the Gentlemen before-mentioned were likewise Killed, and the rest carried Prisoners to Mongheer, but even yet

We are uncertain, which escaped. We could dwell still longer on this Melancholy Event, but that we have another of an equally grievous and unfortunate nature to relate in regard to our Factory and Troops at Patna. To it therefore We shall proceed after repeating once more our real Sorrow for the severe Loss We have experienced in the Death of Mr. Amyatt, and leaving you to learn further particulars by a perusal of the Letters & ca referred to in the Margin.

27. Having received no Advices from Patna after the 17 of June, We began to be apprehensive that hostilities had not only commenced there but that the Consequences had not been successful to Us especially as Various Reports to this purport prevailed in the Town. These Suspicions we
 Cons. 7 July were sorry to find confirmed by a very Insolent and
 11 July exulting Letter from Cossim Aly Cawn, which arrived
 with Us in Council the 7 of July, as also by some Extracts of Letters from the Dutch at Patna sent to Us from Houghley. Yet We still remained in an uncertainty what part of the Detachment had been killed or what were made Prisoners, until lately that We received a Letter from Capt George Wilson one of the Officers who was then there, dated Patna the 27 of July.

28. This acquainted Us that Mr. Ellis and his Council having with the approbation of Capt Carstairs agreed to attack the City early in the Morning of the 25 of June, it was accordingly executed and carried. That they were in entire possession of the City for four hours, the Governor¹, and most of the People having fled as far as Ffutura [Fatwa ?] That he there came to a resolution to return and attempt to regain the City and having got in at the Water side gate of the Kella, he succeeded in dispossessing our Troops, Owing to the Seapoys and Europeans being mostly dispersed in plundering. That upon their retiring into the Factory, on account of the dispiritedness of the Men and a great desertion among the Seapoys it was found impracticable to make any Stand there, and a Resolution was therefore taken to proceed to Sujah Dowla's Country. That they accordingly crossed the River the 26 in the Evening and met with no Obstruction until they passed Chupra. That then they were attacked on the 30 by the Phousdar with about 2000 Men. Whom they easily routed. But he being that Evening joined from Budgepore with four or five hundred Seapoys and five or six Field Pieces. He attacked the Party on the next Evening the 1st of July and entirely routed them The Europeans having quitted their Ranks at the first Onset. That in the whole there was about fifty Europeans killed and about Eight or nine Officers, amongst the last Capt. Carstairs, who was killed by a Cannon Ball in the Morning of the 1st. That on the 2nd Mr. Ellis & c. Officers and private men were taken Prisoners, and at the Time of the Date of this Letter were all at Mongheer excepting, Capt. Wilson Ensigns Mackay and Armstrong, Mr. Anderson Surgeon and Mr. Peter Campbell, who then remained Prisoners at Patna. We are unable yet to say for certain who are the rest of these Officers killed,

as all our Advices to this Time, inform us no further than that there are many Officers and Men Prisoners in Mongheer with all the Gentlemen of the Patna Factory namely Messrs. Ellis, Lushington, Howitt, Smith and Collings.

29. To the bare Narrative of this misfortune We can only observe further at this Time, that it appears to have been owing to an unfortunate Inattention in not restraining the Troops from Plunder after they had possessed themselves of the City; But should any other Circumstances come to our Knowledge hereafter in Explanation of this Affair We shall transmit to your Honors the necessary Advice.

30. Immediately after the attack upon Mr. Amyatt and his party, the Enemy surrounded the Factory of Cossimbuzar, as appears by a Letter from the Gentlemen there entered on Consultation the 8 of
 Cons. 8th July July, who finding they were not in a Capacity to hold
 11th July out against such a Force retreated on the 5 of July to the Dutch Factory at Calkapoor but being demanded by the Naib of Moorshedabad, the Dutch were under a Necessity of delivering them up, and after being Kept some time prisoners at the City, they were all sent up to the Nabob at Mongheer, where they are now confined. Their Number amounts to about Ten, consisting of the following Gentlemen vizt Messrs. Chambers, Lyon, Oakes, Eyston Round and Croke belonging to the Factory. Mr. Ham Surgeon Mr. Lake Commissary to the Troops at Patna on his Way thither, and Messrs. William Stewart and Benjamin Spinner Officers Who were there for the recovery of their health. Mr. Charles Bennet was made Prisoner at Bauleah and sent also to Mongheer.

31. Much about the same time a Body of Troops made an attack upon the Factory at Dacca which was successfully defended and they were repulsed with some Loss, but upon an Enquiry after the Attack
 14th July was over, the Gentlemen finding they had expended the greatest part of their ammunition and being apprehensive of a Second Attack, with the approbation of the Officers Who commanded the Seapoys, they left the Factory the 7 of July, and retreated to Luckypore from whence in their Letter of the 9 they sent us a particular Account of this Affair. Prior to this advice however, having reced the news by Report from a Hircara. We immediately dispatched Orders to the Factories of Luckypore and Chittagong to assemble a Force and joining with the Meckley Detachment, Which might be about that time expected to return agreeable to the Orders sent them the 9 of June proceed to retake Dacca Factory and posses[s] themselves of the City in behalf of the Nabob Meer Jaffier. Although these Orders did not arrive in time to be followed Yet according to the same Plan on the first hearing of this News at Chittagong. Capt. Grant left that place and proceeded to Luckypore near which having joined the Meckley Detachment he returned with the Gentlemen of the Dacca Factory to Dacca where he arrived the 17 of July, and at the same time resettled them in their Business and took the City and Kella.

32. We make no doubt but the Gentlemen on this Occasion acted as they thought for the best however We are sorry to Observe to your Honors that even from their own account transmitted at our
 Cons. 22nd Aug. desire in a Letter dated the 10 of August there appeared to Us to be not sufficient Cause to have obliged them to quit the Factory, and when that resolution was taken, that there was a Want of the necessary Measures and Precautions for making an Orderly retreat for the Better Security of their own Persons and preserving the Company's Effects as even the Treasure to the Amount of Forty five thousand Rupees was left behind in the Factory.

33. Altho' these last particulars do not immediately succeed each other in point of Time Yet we chose to adopt this Method of relating them, together, that We may now Conclude our address, with the account of the Declaration of the War and the Operations of our Army therein.

34. At the Consultation of the 6 of July, the Gentlemen of the Committee delivered in a Sett of Articles for forming a Treaty upon with Meer Jaffier, and these having been amended and approved of, a Deputation from the Board was appointed to wait on Meer Jaffier and acquainted him with the Resolutions in his favour, as also of the Substance of the said Articles to which when formed into a Treaty it would be required he should accede. After one or two Meetings he agreed to resume the Government, and to sign to the Articles as soon as they should be wrote out in proper Form and We therefore on the 7th of July drew up a paper which contained at the same time a Declaration of War against Cossim Aly Cawn and a proclamation of Meer Jaffier as Nazim of the three Provinces.

35. This Proclamation was publickly read the 8th and the Treaty after undergoing some alterations at the request of the Nabob for the reasons mentioned in Consultation of the 9th of July, was reduced into Form and signed by the Parties on the 10 of the said Month. The most material Articles being those which ascertained to Us. An unlimited Trade in the Country free of Customs in all Commodities excepting Salt, upon which We agreed to pay 2½ p Ct. Stipulated the Sum of Thirty Lacks of Rupees for reimbursement of the Company's Losses and the Expences of the War, and promised Indemnification for the Losses of all private Merchants residing under our protection. For the more particular Subject of the first proposed articles the Alterations made therein as above-mentioned, and of the Definitive Treaty as it now stands We beg leave to refer you to the Consultations of the 6th, 9th and 11th of July, in which they are entered at large. A copy of the Proclamation and Treaty are likewise, sent in the Packet.

36. On the Articles being first presented to the Board, The President and Mr. Hastings altho' they gave their Opinions with respect to the Propriety of them, approving of the Tenor of the Treaty in
 6th July
 8th July general, excepting only that Article which regards the Extent of our Trade, yet they declared they would not become parties to that

or any other Treaty, which might be entered into with the Country Government. But when the Proclamation and Treaty came afterwards to be signed, altering their Opinion thus far, in that they thought it would be more for the publick Service, that We should appear unanimous in every Measure for prosecuting the War against Cossim Aly Cawn, with the utmost Vigor and supporting the Alliance with Jaffier Aly Cawn, and particularly as the President conceived it would be a Satisfaction to Meer Jaffier They consented to sign the Proclamation and all other public Deeds which should be made in Consequence recording Once for all that they did not mean thereby to prejudice their former Declarations and Opinions entered on Consultation.

37. The Treaty with the Nabob Meer Jaffier having been regularly signed and Exchanged. He set out a few days after to join the Army under Major Adams, which was then on its march toward Moorshed-abad. The first action which happened
 Cons. 11th July was on the 19th of July, Opposite to Cutwa on the Cossimbuzar Side of the River. The Major having crossed the Army the night before, in the Morning came up with a large Body of the Enemy's Troops who were strongly posted to oppose his progress to the City, and having attacked them they were routed after a Small resistance and with an inconsiderable Loss on our Side a detached Party under the Command of Capt. Long at the same time possessed themselves of the Fort of Cutwa on the other Side of the River, and all the Artillery they had there, as well as what they had brought into the Field fell into our hands. In this Action Mahomed Tuckey Cawn, who, it is said Commanded the attack on Mr. Amyatt's Party was mortally wounded and died a few days after.

38. The good Effects of this Success were displayed in the easy Conquest that follow'd of the City of Moorshed-abad which the
 1st Augt. Army entered with a trifling Opposition the 24th at night. Here the Major established and proclaimed the Nabob in due form and halted some days to refresh the Army.

39. On the 28th of July, he continued his March towards Mongheer and on the 2d of Augt. having arrived near a place called Sooty, at the Head of of the Cossimbuzar River a very Obstinate Engagement
 8th Augt. ensued with a numerous Army of the Enemy's best Troops and Artillery, who there occupied a very strong and Advantageous Post. The stand which they made was resolute and un-common, for Troops of this Country, having closely engaged our Forces for no less than four Hours however by the Intrepidity and good Conduct of Major Adams, and the remarkable Bravery of the Officers and Men, the Enemy sustained a total Defeat. The loss on our Side was no[t] so considerable as might have been expected from so severe an Action, consisting only of six Officers and forty Europeans, and 292 Seapoys and Black horse killed and wounded. On the Side of the Enemy a great Number of Men were killed and

wounded, twenty-three Pieces of Cannon, and about a hundred and fifty Boats laden with Military and other Stores taken Amongst these last were found all the Artillery and most of the Stores of the Patna Detachment; and within some days after the Action between Sixty and Seventy of the Men, Who were taken prisoners at Patna, and had been engaged by foul Means and fair to serve the Enemy's Guns returned to their Colours.

40. Immediately after this Battle, the Major advanced with the Army near to Rajamoul about three or four Miles from which place the Enemy
 Cons. 29th Augt. had thrown up a Strong Entrenchment from the hill to
 12 Sept. the River and for the forcing of which it was judged most proper, for ensuring the Safety of the Troops, to carry on regular Approaches. Every thing having been accordingly prepared, the Works were begun upon the 29 of August, and continued till the 5 of September, when the Major resolved upon an assault which was executed with very little Loss and their whole Works in our Possession that Morning. This Success We have great reason to believe will be decisive of the Fate of the War as the Enemy seemed to repose their Chief Confidence in the Strength of these Works, and now by the Loss of them are deprived of all Supplies of Provision[s] from the Province of Bengal which is entirely secured to Us.

41. This account of our Operations is nothing more than a general Sketch for the particular of each Action. We leave you to a perusal of Major Adam's Letters referr'd to in the Margin* which are very Explicit and distinct.

42. After the Defeat at Ouda Nulla Cossim Aly Cawn wrote a Letter to Major Adams threatening the Lives of all the Gentlemen who are in his
 17th Sept. hands, if the Army proceeded any further. This Letter the Major transmitted to the President, and having duly considered it in Consultation the 17 of Sepr. We wrote our Sentiments thereon in a Letter to Major Adams to the following purport that We hoped this Threat of Cossim Aly Cawn's was nothing more than a Brave proceeding from a Sense of his Inability to support the War and that great as our Concern was for the Safety of those Gentlemen, We thought, the more We let it appear to him the more we should expose them to such a Risk That it was impossible any Terms of Accommodation could take place between Us, or that We could give him the least hopes of the Operation of our Army being suspended on that account. That considering, therefore, We had no Equivalent to offer him for the release of the Gentlemen We had wrote him a Letter thro' the Channel of the President setting before him the Infamy and Inutility of so horrid a design as well as, the Necessity of our firmness and Resolution in prosecuting the War. For more particular Subject of this Letter of the President's as well as of Cossim Aly Cawn's We refer you to the said Day's Consultation where they are entered at large. From our desire to embrace every possible Measure for ensuring the Lives of those Gentlemen, We added

*References in the margin are mislaid.

further, in our Letter to Major Adams that We should willingly grant Cossim Aly Cawn permission to retire unmolested, if he would tender such a proposal and immediately deliver up the Prisoners, or even allow him to continue for a Year certain at Rotas, the place to which it is said he has removed his Effects and Family on condition of his remaining quiet and within that Time determining for himself Whither to retire. Upon the whole We left it to Major Adam's Discretion to employ these Instructions or any other expedient that might Occur to himself in the most proper Manner desiring only that he would make one proposition on Our behalf in favour of Mr. Hay which was, To Offer to send to Cossim Aly Cawn Mahomed Aly the late Naib of Dacca Upon his delivering up to Us Mr. Hay whom he had frequently declared he detained only as a hostage for this Man.

43. What Effect these Letters may have upon Cossim Aly Cawn We cannot yet say As We have only heard that all the Gentlemen were alive and well on the 14th Instant altho' our Army still Continued their March towards Mongheer.

44. When We declared this War against Cossim Aly Cawn, We gave immediate Advice to the Presidencys of Fort St. George and Bombay and also to Admiral Cornish at the same time acquainting the
 Cons. 7th July Two former that as in the Course of a War especially at this unfavourable Season of the year We must necessarily expect a Loss of Men. We earnestly desired they would send us reinforcements to the utmost of their power. To the Admiral We likewise represented that as We were obliged to send into the Field every Man Who was capable of bearing Arms the Settlement was thereby left Naked and Defenceless, and that therefore it would be of the greatest Consequence to the Safety of the Company's Interests in Bengal If he would Order two or three of his Majesty's Ships down to the Bay with a Party of Marines to Garrison Calcutta.

45. In consequence of these Applications, The Gentlemen at Fort St. George have promised to assist Us. with about 250
 5th Sept. Men and the Admiral with a Division of Two Ships and Two Frigates, of which One Ship and Two Frigates are already arrived with the Major Part of the Troops. The rest We daily expect and doubt not but these timely Supplies will fully enable Us to put a Successful End to the War and restore the Country to a State of Tranquility.

46. Major Adams in his Letter Where he gives an account of his several Engagements with the Enemy has given just Praises to Major Carmac [Carnac] Major Knox, and other Officers who have distinguished themselves as well as to the Officers and Troops in general for their gallant Behaviour. To Major Carmac [Carnac] he ascribes particular Merit for the Vigorous attack which he led against the Main Body of the Enemy in the general Action of the 2d. August, and which made the first Impression contributing thereby in great Measure to the Victory We obtained. It is for Us to do the same justice to



Maj. John Carnac

Major Adams, which he has done to the Officers and Troops under his Command, and to assure your Honors that We think the highest Praise is due to him from the Company for his good Conduct in this Campaign which has been attended with extraordinary Difficulties and Fatigues on account of the rainy Season and the Badness of the Roads, and in which by his Ability in forming the Plans of attack in such Manner as to take every Advantage the Situation of the Enemy admitted, he has ensured the Success of his Operations with the smallest Loss of Men possible, and to which most valuable Qualification he adds a Coolness and Intrepidity unshaken in the Midst of Action.

47. When Major Adams took the Field with the Army only Capt McLean remained in Garrison with six Companies of Seapoys of his Battallion.

Cons. 14th July All possible Measures were immediately taken for the Defence of the Settlement in case of any unfortunate Event. The Ramparts of the new Fort were mounted and the Magazines filled with a sufficient Store of Ammunitions and Provisions, and the Company's Servants and Other Inhabitants with the same Commendable Spirit which has received your Notice and Praise in former Occasions formed themselves into a Body of Militia to the Number of near Two hundred and were exercised in the Use of Arms. Although it is pretty certain there will be no Actual Service for the Militia on this Occasion yet as so good a Beginning has been made We purpose to recommend to the Gentlemen to assemble themselves once a Month in Order to Keep up a Practice Which will, at all times be an additional Security to the Settlement.

48. We also landed from your several Ships in the River Viz The Royal George, Osterly, Ashburnham and Boscawen, the Number altogether of about Ninety Seamen Who We caused to be trained to the Use of the Artillery and gave Capt Skottowe a brevet Commission as Captain to Command them on Shore. nor can We omit taking Notice that he attended to this Service with so much alacrity, Care, and hope Vigilance as to meirt our thanks, and that your Honours will show him marks of your Favor on any Occasion that may Offer.

49. These Precautions taken and three or four more Companies of new

15th Augt.
5th Sept.

Seapoys being raised, We were enabled to send Capt. McLean into the Field with his Six Old Companies. He was directed to March by the Way of Burdwan and Beerboun and from thence proceeding by the Western Road through the Hills to join Major Adams on the other Side of the Passes. This was with a View either to alarm the Enemy at Mongheer by the March of a fresh Body of Troops through this Road or in case any Forces of the Enemy should be coming by the same Road as We had some reason to apprehend with an Intention of making Incursions into the Burdwan Province to oppose them and secure that principal Resource of our Treasury. Capt. McLean had scarcely reached the Frontier of Burdwan, When he had Intelligence of a very considerable Body of the Enemy being arrived at Beerboun. We have reinforced him with a part of the Troops arrived from Madrass, and he is advancing

towards the Enemy. Who We imagine will be so much discouraged by the Ill Success of all the Efforts which have been made against Major Adams, they will not attempt much Opposition at least We think that they will be incapable of Acting offensively or interrupting the Collection of our Burdwan Revenues.

50. During our disputes with Cossim Aly Cawn He wrote a Letter to the Company which was read in Consultation the 2nd of May, and forwarded by the Royal George but he pursued a very different Conduct from what he professed in that address had he referred himself to your Honors Determination of the Points in Dispute, forbearing in the mean time from giving any Interruption to our Business or Committing any act of hostility he would have saved himself from Ruin, and the Country from the present Troubles.

51. Finding that two Companies of Artillery are by no means sufficient for the Service of a Field Train proportionate to the
 Cons. 17th Sept. Body of Europeans and Seapoys, which Compose our Army insomuch that Major Adams has been under a Necessity of lending Seventy or Eighty Men from the Eighty fourth Regiment to assist in the Service of Artillery during the present Campaign. We have therefore come to a Resolution of raising a third Company of artillery by enlisting to the Number of ten Seaman [sic] out of each of the Companys Ships if so many are willing to engage for three years on the usual Terms. The Ships will now be able to afford that Number without Difficulty as the Squadron do not take out any of their Men. We shall transmit to your Honors exact Lists of the Men so engaged, and the Pay due to them from the Ships and advanced them by Us here that you may receive the same from the Owners in England and make good to them the Expence they may be at in Shipping other Men. We are Obligated to take this Method of raising our third Company of Artillery, as our Battallion is so much reduced to afford such a Draft and consists mostly of Foreigners and the greatest Part of those French Men, Who, We never admit into the Artillery Corps. We further judge that Men thus engaged in your Service from the Ships will be a less Expence to the Company than a like Number enlisted in England and sent out.

52. From the Royal George We have taken two Men and from the Ashburnham two as p Lists enclosed in the general packets, and Capt. Skottowe being willing to spare us one of his petty Officers Mr. Lauder, and Capt. Pearce two of his, Messrs. Downes and Neale to be made Officers in our Artillery Companies. We have entertained them accordingly and request that your Honours will receive the Pay due to them from the respective Ships, and cause to be made good to them here or in England.

We are With the greatest Respect

May it please your Honors

Your most Faithfull Humble Servants,
 Henry Van Sittart/Wm. Billers/Warren
 Hastings/Randh. Marriott/H. Watts.

Fort William,
 The 29 September 1763.
 [Triplicate]
 [Recd. Per Osterly]

LETTER DATED 8 OCTOBER 1763 *

Van ittart's differences with Ellis and his party—views on inland trade and its regulation—pleads for a Select Committee with greater powers.

To The Honorable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honorable the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies,

Honorable Sirs,

[1]. My Address of the 20th May has been forwarded to you in two Copies from Madras, but the same Conveyances which have carried these advices have also informed you that I have been disappointed in my hopes of the Country's remaining in tranquillity until your pleasure concerning the demands made by the Council upon the Nabob could be Known.

[2]. Mutual Jealousies and suspicions had gained so much strength that not a day passed after Messrs. Amyatt and Hay had opened their Commission to the Nabob without some aggravation of the disputes. Mr. Ellis, whom I have never scrupled to call the Head of the Party Which he formed the Moment of his arrival in Bengal and has carefully nourished ever since, had at this time a sure Majority in the Council and I endeavoured in vain to restrain the Violence of their Measures. He Himself by his station at Patna had it daily in his power to create animosities between the Nabob's people and ours and by his representations to the Board of designs which I believe never existed having got into his hands an authority to act as he pleased, in very few days after he began the war by the attack of the City of Patna..

[3]. As the event of that Attack and the other Misfortunes Which immediately followed are fully related in the general Letter, I will spare myself the pain of relating them here. The operations of the Army since have notwithstanding those Misfortunes made good the Opinion I gave your Honours in my Address of the 20th of May last that the Nabob's ruin would be inevitable if a rupture happened between Us.

[4]. After doing utmost to oppose the innovations demanded by the Council and to prevent a breach with the Nabob, when I found that all my endeavors were in vain I resolved that I would for my own part have no concern in the Resolution that was threatened in the Government nor in the Agreements that were to be made in consequence with the New Nabob, and that after discharging my duty to your Honours by the care of your

The N.A.I. copy is undated. The date given here is based on Vansittart's subsequent letters dated 24 Dec. 1763 (Nos. 48-49).

Settlements and Possessions as long as the War should last I would immediately quit the Government and return to Engl and Seems to be already very near it's Period. By the last Letters from Major Adams dated the 3rd. Instant he was encamped within two miles of Mongheer where Cossim Aly Cawn has left only 12 or 1500 men and is himself retired to Patna where also I believe he will make no stand. My greatest concern at present is for the safety of the Gentlemen who are Prisoners in his hands . We have been apprehensive of his treating them ill, and even that their lives were in danger however I think there is all reason to entertain better hopes for if the Spirit of revenge had so far possessed Cossim Aly Cawn Mr. Ellis, when he fell into his hands, would probably have been the first object of it, yet I do not find that he has met with any ill treatment.

[5]. The unfortunate loss of Mr. Amyatt gave me the most sensible concern, for I regarded him as a man of great worth and have always declared that Opinion of him. I should have left the Government in his hands with much more satisfaction than I shall in the hands of the next in succession Mr. Ellis. However as the fault of this last is chiefly the violence of his Temper and as Cossim Aly Cawn the principal Object of that Violence is now removed I hope he will have nothing to divert him from pursuing the Company's true interests.

[6]. As long as I stay I will do my utmost to support Jaffier Aly Cawn in the Government with the same steadiness that I did Cossim Aly, for it is not the person but the station I regard as connected with the Company's interests yet I fear his age, infirmities and habits of indolence will prevent his taking the necessary Measures for regulating the several Branches of his Government and keeping them in good order and that he will soon find as he did before that he is unequal to the burden.

[7]. Our connections with the Government if our Privileges be not duly limited are rather a clog upon it and a ruin to the revenues, than a strength and support, and consequently the Nabob if he has in his power will be endeavoring to shake off the yoke. On the other hand if to prevent this he be kept weak and without a due authority over his own people his Government will fall into contempt and sink of itself. The Majority of the Council in conformity to their opinion that the Firmaun conveyed to the Company's Servants a free trade in all Articles as well those produced and consumed in the Country as Salt Beetlenut and Tobacco as those imported or to be exported by shipping have made this an article in the present agreement with Jaffier Aly Cawn allowing only the [that] 2½ p Cent shall be paid upon Salt. You will have observed by my Letter to the Secret Committee of the 20th February last that I entirely disapprove of this pretension conceiving it to be quite ill-grounded and I have mentioned my objections on all occasions upon the Minutes of our Consultation.

[8]. This innovation is plainly contrary to your opinion declared in the 36th Page of your Answers to the Dutch Memorial. You there say that

"the Phirmauns, general as they are not to be construed universal, but to be understood with this limitation that they do not operate to the prejudice of any subsisting right or usage, much less of such rights as could not be abolished without a Considerable diminution of the Public revenues. Whatever Article of trade, therefore has been ordinarily monopolized and granted in farm it might be contended, may still be so enjoyed and granted without infringement of those Phirmauns the design of Which was to admit European Traders to the same freedom of trading with the Moghul's own subjects and surely not to a better". If we will not be satisfied with less than shutting the Country people out of every kind of trade and depriving the Government of their duty upon ourselves, the universal odium of the inhabitants and the secret ill-will of the Government* I, therefore think that one necessary regulation of your Honors to make will be that the Inland Trade, that is the Trade from place to place in the Country in articles produced in the Country shall not be carried on with the Company's Dustuck, but with that of the Country Government paying a duty as nearly as possible equivalent to what the Country Merchants pay, and which I think will be found to be at least 9 p cent as I had settled it in my Letter to the Nabob so much Complained of by the Board. A true and natural translation of that Letter is entered in the book of Country Letters sent No. 1 to Which I beg leave to refer you, because in the translation which the Council got made before my return to Calcutta an odious turn is endeavored to be given to it by rendering the Persian Complimentary expressions into literal English and by straining the language throughout. The Nabob's Letter to me, to which this was an answer is entered likewise, No. 1 in the book of Country Letters received.

[9]. The next matter to be regulated to prevent fresh disturbances is the authority of our Chiefs of subordinate Factories, and of the Company's and private Agents and Gomastahs in different parts of the country with respect to the Officers of the Government and Vice versa the authority of the Officers of the Government with respect to our Factories and agents. Upon this point I must give it as my opinion that neither one side nor the other are to be trusted with power, and therefore that our Chiefs, Agents and Gomastahs should be forbid to make use of force against any officers of the Government without the express and particular orders of the President and Council, and in like manner the Officers of the Government should be forbid to exercise any actual authority over our Factories or agents without the orders of the Nabob. On both sides complaint should be made to the superior Power when any dispute arises and it will then be easy for the President, and Council and the Nabob to settle the controversy without violent measures provided that the Gentlemen of the Council will not be swayed by prejudice or views of self advantage. You may observe that most of the disputes betwixt the English and the Natives, and of the oppression complained of by the latter arise from the English Agents and Gomastahs who being employed by the Company's Servants and for the most part by the Chiefs of the Factories and Members of the Council have met with too much encouragement from

*Presumably the copyist has left out some more words.

the prejudices of their judges, even of those not immediately interested in them. I need only appeal for the truth of these Observations to some instances which you will see in our Consultations since October last of Complaints brought before the Board against Members themselves or their agents, which a bare denial has been sufficient to refute or by a recrimination the cause has been made a general one, and the President, through whose channel such complaints must be laid before the Board has been the object of the hatred and resentment of the other Members, Who were liable to be called upon for the like misdemeanors of the Gomastahs.....If more impartiality cannot be established in such inquiries and severe examples made of every Offender. Our Gomastahs will be incited to persist in their oppressions, from the experience of the impunity attending them, and the wretched inhabitants will be for ever subject to the extortions and insolence of arbitrary authority. The Company's business can be and always has been carried on Without these pernicious consequences and indeed without any disputes, and if the private cannot it must be restrained that the public welfare may not be involved in private contentions nor the English name be made a Sanction to injustice for the profits of Individuals.

[10]. To speak as a Member of the World and not of a particular Community our Gomastahs ought to be subjected to the natural authority of the country Where they reside but I fear from instances I have seen, that the officers of the Government would abuse this power in extorting arbitrary Fines from the Gomastahs and the flame of contention be still kept alive by their appeals and exaggerated representations. These are my reasons for proposing that the Officers of the Government should make their Complaints to the Nabob; and not be allowed to exercise their forces against our Agents, but then it will be highly necessary that your Honors do in the strictest manner enjoin your President to lay every such complaint handed to him from the Nabob before the board and that you do positively direct the Board to inquire without loss of time into all the circumstances of the Complaints and proceed to an impartial determination, and the immediate punishment of the Gomastahs who shall be found to offend transmitting regularly their whole proceedings in such inquiries with the depositions taken and all other evidence at large in a book apart for your inspection.

[11]. I think also that you should forbid your Servants from employing European Agents in any Part of the country as they are more apt to arrogate to themselves an unlawful authority than the Gomastahs in general.

[12]. If after these regulations it shall appear that a proper attention is not given by the Board to such complaints or that their decisions are partial and self-interested, there will then remain no other remedy, than restraining the private trade within the limits of your Factories, and the absolute prohibition of all inland trade, by which, as I before observed I mean the trade from place to place in the country in articles, the produce of the Country. It is a source of profit which I should wish your Servants to enjoy if

it could be done consistently with the public tranquillity and the good understanding necessary to be preserved between the Company and the Nabob which can never subsist Whilst the authority of the Government is insulted and its effects destroyed by the independancy of so many of our Agents scattered in every part of the country. I hope however that the regulations, which I have here proposed, or such other as you may think proper to lay down will be carefully obeyed by your President and Council, if not they will have only themselves to blame for the loss of these indulgences.

[13]. The holding Rents, Farms, or Offices, under the Country Government by any of your Servants or their Dependants has been found another source of contention and forbid here, but it may be proper for your Honors to enforce that prohibition lest it should be forgot. The powers of the President, the Select Committee and the Council require to be settled and better distinguished. I think they might be so regulated as to Check and ballance each other, and render the administration of your affairs more steady than it can be at present. In the late disputes I found myself without the least authority beyond any other Member of the Council, nor could I prevent or put a negative upon the most unjust and improper Resolution of the Majority. I was obliged to be myself the channel for conveying those Resolutions to the Nabob, otherwise instead of threatening him with a rupture they would immediately have declared a rupture and ordered the Army to march against him so that upon the present footing it is in the power of any Majority of the Council to engage the Company in new Wars whenever a Party shall be inclined to make new demands.

[14]. As no good can result to the Company from such controversies but on the contrary great detriment, expences, and loss of reputation, I think the regulations proposed should be calculated to prevent and restrain them. For this purpose that there should be always a Select Committee consisting of the Governor, [and] the second, who should always reside at the Presidency and another of the Council who also should be always on the spot ; That they should meet at least once a week and the correspondence with the Nabob and all other Country Powers (Which should be carried on as usual through the Channel of the President) should be laid before them and all the material parts noticed upon the minutes of their Consultations likewise all correspondence with Foreign European Nations upon political subjects should be carried on by the Select Committee, and the orders and instructions to the officers commanding any military operations should be formed by and proceed from them; That the Consultation book of the Select Committee, the Books of their correspondence and the Country correspondence should be transmitted regularly to your Honors, and they should address you separately upon the matters therein contained. This much for the common course of their business but if a new alliance was proposed, or any new demands or concessions to be asked of the Nabob or any other Power, or a Motion made for Military Force to be employed in any part of the Country upon any occasion whatever, that such proposal should not be carried into execution, without

the approbation and concurrence of all the three Powers, the President, the Select Committee, and the Council, that is, it should be in the power of the President himself, or of a Majority of the Select Committee or of a Majority of the Council to put a negative upon such Question, as there is certainly more danger of the Company's Interest suffering by adopting new project, too, often than by the restraints I have proposed. Most of the Members of the Board have been taught by those Who were at the head of the party against the late Government that every one had a right to equal authority with the President in the management of all affairs with the Country Powers consequently they have all formed plans of their own of which you will see some specimens in Consultation of the 20th June, and if your Honors do not take effectual care to prevent it, you may very soon hear that the present system is voted injurious to the Company's Interests or insufficient for the management of the country, and a new one taken up.

[15]. These are the principal considerations, Which at present occur to me. If the war in this Country should not be brought to a successful end, I will stay here till next year at all events although it is the opinion of the Physicians, that I am very incapable of going through another hot season but if the troubles should be so far quieted that I can leave your possessions in safety I shall hope to pay my respects to you in London, about September next, and as I shall ever esteem myself bound by the strongest ties of gratitude to the Company, so shall I be ready at all times to attend you with my best advice in which indeed I think I can more effectually serve you than in my present situation here.

I am with respect Honorable Sirs
Your most obedient humble Servant

Henry Van Sittart

LETTER DATED 8 OCTOBER 1763

Treaty with the French.

To The Honourable The [Secret] Committee

Honourable Sirs,

I have received your Commands of the 17th December 1762, and having since received a Notification from the Court of Directors of the Definitive Treaty, being signed and ratified, I have given the Commanders of the Royal George and Earl of Ashburnham Instructions conformable to your said Letter and herewith Inclose a Copy for your approbation.

As yet We have no Advice of the arrival of any of the French Commissarys in India from Whence I suppose They are Coming with considerable preparations for re-establishing Their Settlements. As they are confined in Bengal to such plain Limits and We have proper authority for Keeping them to the Tenor of the Articles of the Treaty so I think it will always be in our power to prevent Their Encroaching here, but they may probably enter into fresh engagements in the Decan with Salabut Jung who, it seems, has lately met with a severe defeat from the Morrattas. I understand that the Ships of the Squadron which the Admiral leaves in India, are to remain only for one year but I hope you will be able to procure Orders for the prolonging this term should your affairs in any part of India require it.

Fort William
8th October 1763.

I am with the greatest respect, Honble Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servant
Henry Van Sittart

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LETTER DATED 15 OCTOBER 1763

Anxiety for prisoners under Mir Qasim—Maj. Adams to attack Monghyr

TO the Honorable the Court of Directors

Honble Sirs

Having this Instant received a Letter from Major Adams inclosing Copy of one from Messrs. Ellis and Hay dated at Patna the 4th instant. I have thought proper to forward a Copy with all speed down to the Royal George, as your Honors will no doubt be anxious to have a certain account of our Gentlemen, Prisoners in the late Nabob's hands, and their Friends will be earnest in their Enquiries. As they mention only the death of Captain Turner since they were taken it may be presumed that all the rest are well.

The Major's Letter is dated before Mongheer the 9th, and he expected to be in possession of the Fort the next day. He had also taken some Measures to favour the escape of our Gentlemen from Patna, and it will give me the most sensible pleasure to have an opportunity of acquainting you of their success.

Fort William,
15th Oct. 1763

I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sirs
Your most obedient humble Servant
Henry Van Sittart

LETTER DATED 19 DECEMBER 1763

Ships to be built at Chittagong—demand for goods from England not fully met—improvement in gunpowder manufacture—deficiency of investment—answer to charges of having assisted Dutch investment—Lakshmipur factory to be closed—commercial and political transactions to be separately recorded—revenue from newly acquired districts—expedition to Manipur recalled—progress in fortification at Calcutta—list of British prisoners massacred at Patna—surgeons establishment—search for papers regarding Dutch claims about saltpetre—increase in ground-rent of Calcutta—bills of exchange—Mir Qasim flees from Bengal—Vansittart agrees to continue as Governor for one more year.

TO the Honble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honble Sirs,

1. We addressed you on the 29th of September by your Ships Ashburnham Cons. and Royal George the first of which received her Dis-
24th Oct. patches at Ingellee the 12 of October, and the other the 18th of the same Month.

2. Triplicate of our said Address is transmitted in the packet by this ship the Osterley, whose lading being now nearly completed. We proceed to lay before you a general account of the affairs at this Presidency under the usual heads, and to reply as far as may be necessary to your several commands of which we have before acknowledged the Receipt.

First of Shipping

3. After the date of our last letter we received advice of the arrival of your ship Pigot at Madrass, where having delivered her consignments she was dispatched here as had been the Lord Clive some time before and both imported safe in the river.

4. We have yet no accounts of the British King or Pitt, nor had they
3 & 13 Octr. been heard of at Madrass, the 25 of October. Neither have the Lord Mansfield or Lord Bute yet arrived from Bombay.

5. However the Ships we already have in the River, are sufficient to answer all the Services, we have at present to employ them in or indeed can expect to provide for during this season, finding upon a computation of our investment that we shall not be able to load more than three ships for Europe with full cargoes. We have therefore, determined that
17th Octr. those three shall be the Osterley, Boscawen and Pigot.

The first is now under Dispatch, and we hope the Boscawen will follow by the middle of January and that the Pigot will not be later than the middle of February, but it is impossible we can speak with certainty to this point as it depends entirely on the Arrival of the Salt Petre from Patna.

6. The Gentlemen at Madrass having advised us that they expect to be provided with three hundred or three hundred and fifty tons of bales by the middle of February, We have stationed the Deptford to be dispatched to Europe from thence, and for that purpose shall forward [t]hither with two hundred Tons of Salt Petre as soon as possible.

7. The Lord Clive We have destined for Fort Marlbro hoping that the President and Council there may be able to give her a loading of Pepper
 Cons. for China. We have loaded on board her a Supply of Stores
 17th Octr. for that Presidency, and she is now under dispatch with order to call at Fort St. George for such stores as they may have to forward.

8. The remaining three ships British King, Lord Mansfield and Lord Bute we intend if they can be supplied with a [sufficient stock of money, to
 7th Octr. send to China to be loaded home from thence in failure of which we shall employ them in India in the best manner possible for the Company's Interest, or let them on Freight to private Merchants so as to save their demorage.

9. In the 43 paragraph of our Letter of the 18 of April last, we took notice of the small tonnage the Royal George had then on board for the
 13th Octr. Company's account. This observation becomes yet more necessary upon her being loaded a second Time after her Repair for her first Cargo Amounted to 215 Tons, her second to no more than 190½; The Export Warehouse Keeper having acquainted us that the difference of 24 tons and a half had been returned we called upon Captn. Skottowe for an Explanation thereof which appears in his letter entered in the Consultation, and of which a copy was transmitted to your Secretary by that Ship. We shall hope therefore, to receive your orders for our future Guidance in the like Cases.

10. Of the four Schooners we requested to be built at Bombay for the
 15th Feby. Service of this River, two are now arrived, the Plassey
 13th Octr. and Swift, as are also the two which we directed to be built at Chittagong, called the Coote and Carnac. Those built at Bombay are judged to be the best vessels but we doubt not that this branch of Business will in time improve at Chittagong. The difference of the cost we cannot yet ascertain as we have not yet received all the necessary particulars from Chittagong, but if the work is found equally cheap we shall continue to build there taking care to give Directions for such improvements as may seem necessary.

11. The Syren Snow is not yet returned from Fort Marlbro nor have we had any advices from thence since the beginning of June. The Nancy Ketch

belonging to that Presidency is kept ready to be dispatched thither immediately on the arrival of opium from Patna.

12. The Leopard Snow Which we sent to Fort St. George in March last with Military Stores was dispatched from thence to Fort Marlbro in June and is not yet returned.

13. Having been supplied with the four new Vessels above mentioned for the Pilot Service when the state of the marine for this year is laid before us we shall direct such of the Old Sloops as have thereby become unnecessary to be sold off.

14. We shall observe your Directions in applying for one Man to be left out of each ship to be employed in the Pilot Service but the supplies we shall get by this method will be very insufficient to make good the vacancies which may be annually expected in this Climate. We would therefore recommend your falling upon some other method to fill this Material Branch with promising young men, and we take the liberty to add that we think an application of this Nature, to the Marine Society could not fail of success as it will be the means of providing for so many of the boys which must otherwise be maintained at the Expence of the Society.

15. We have had before us a tedious and troublesome Enquiry upon a Dispute between Captain Vincent of the Osterley and his Chief Mate Mr. White. Captain Vincent gave Mr. White a paper by way of Discharge from his Station in the Ship which contained in many articles such an Impeachment of his Character as an Officer that he thought it necessary to apply to the Board for an Enquiry into the truth of those several Accusations. We accordingly formed a Committee of the whole Board with the assistance of Capt. Skottowe, Pearce and Morris and after a very full Examination upon Evidence into each Distinct article We adjudged Mr. White to be guilty of one article only which was the having neglected for some time to sign the Company's Log Book on his Watch-Days according to your established Regulations. All the other Articles we were of Opinion, were fully refuted by Mr. White and that they appeared to be the Effect of great Malice and passion in Captain Vincent. It was therefore Resolved after reprimanding Mr. White for his Neglect and giving him a Caution to be more careful in future in this point of his Duty to restore him to his Station on board the Ship, and Captain Vincent being served with an Order to that purpose and acquainted with our opinion and Resolutions on all the Articles Mr. White was accordingly restored. Our proceedings in this Enquiry are transmitted by this Packet in a Book apart and we doubt not will appear to your Honors to be very Regular, full and Explicit.

16. Captain Vincent as well during the course of this Enquiry as after it was closed, behaved to us with such Insolence and Disrespect as we are persuaded will merit your highest Displeasure. After charging Us with Injustice and partiality in the grossest Terms, he proceeded at length so far as to dispute our Authority in restoring Mr. White to his Station, and altho We were fully resolved to overlook and treat with Contempt his Insolence towards ourselves, Yet we could not admit to pass unnoticed this attack upon the Company's Authority, and the necessary Right which they have reserved to themselves by Charter Party. We had, therefore, actually determined to displace Captain Vincent from the Command of the Ship, and our Secretary in consequence required him to Inform Us What Officer was in such Case appointed by his Owners to succeed him.

17. Considering Captain Vincent's long Service and particularly the favorable Notice you have been pleased to take of his Conduct at Fort Marlbro', it was with pain We found ourselves under a Necessity of proceeding to this Extremity; and therefore, upon his delivering in a Letter Wherein he acknowledged the Company's Authority over the Officers of their Ships and Apologized tho' in an awkward Manner for his Misbehaviour to Us. We determined without Difficulty to reserve our Resolution for displacing him and have permitted him to go home in the Command of the Ship leaving it to your Honors to take such further Notice of the whole of this Affair as you may judge proper. One Circumstance however We think it our Duty to represent, as well in justice to Mr. White as for the better Support of your own authority on these Occasions; Captain Vincent's Temper is such that We have Reason to apprehend he may ill treat Mr. White in the voyage home in Resentment of the past Disputes and which We had no other means of preventing, but by a Warning of the severest Displeasure which you would certainly shew against any attempt of that Nature. This Warning has accordingly been given to Capt. Vincent and if notwithstanding he should be guilty of ill-treating Mr. White We hope and doubt not, but you will resent such Behaviour in the most exemplary manner in order to prevent the like unjust and arbitrary proceeding on future Occasions, and testify your Resolution of maintaining the proper Subordination in your Service.

Secondly Goods from Europe and from one part of India to another.

18. The last general Sale of your Exports was made in the Month of July and notwithstanding the Troubles which prevail in the Country, amounted nearly to Seven and a half Lacks of Rupees as will more particularly appear by the Account thereof transmitted in this Ships Packet, by it you will find the Broad Cloth still Kept up in Price but that Perpets continue out of Demand for which We may safely assign to your Honours this one general Reason, that Where it can possibly be afforded,

Broad Cloth always finds the preference in this Country in all the Uses for which such Articles are wanted.

19. However agreeable to your Orders, We directed the Warehouse Keeper to make a Report of the more particular Reasons for the bad Sale of this Article and Whether any other Thin Stuffs would answer to be sent out, and We have also wrote to the several Subordinates to the same Effect. The Warehouse Keepers Report is a Number in the Packet in Which it is remarked that the Fine Scarlet Long Ells being proportionably cheaper invoic'd than the other Sorts meet with the readiest Sale and that no other Sorts of thin Stuffs will answer.

20. The Price of Copper continues very low but it is remarkable that the Copper for Brass fine, sold at the rate of 55 Rupees p Maund Whilst all the other Sorts of Copper for Brass and Battery Copper would fetch no more than 35 Rupees altho' invoiced at the same Rate. Some Observations in consequence of this Difference appear in the Warehouse Keepers Letters and in our Indent from that office to Which we referred.

21. In this Indent We have desired a Supply of hats for the Military which We request may be sent and any advance you think proper shall be charged upon them. We have likewise requested a small quantity of allapeens and some other stuffs for the use of the Inhabitants.

22. The Consignment of Broad Cloth p Deptford invoiced for the Presidency was freighted from Fort St George round to Bombay on the Winchelsea the Gentlemen there understanding by the Captain's 5th Sept. Tonnage Bill that it was designed for that place. We therefore forwarded to Bombay a Copy of the original Invoice, and as the Pattern Bales marked PH mentioned in your Letter of the 17th December were a part of that Invoice We transmitted them a Copy of your Paragraph regarding them, and desired they would make the necessary Enquiries and advise you of their Observations thereupon.

23. It has always been our Care to inspect the several Indents for goods and Stores wanted from Europe and to regulate the Quantities according to the Demand for your Service and the use of the Settlement. We are sensible in Time of War When a considerable part of your Tonnage is filled with the necessary Stores for His Majesty's Troops and Squadron that it may for the most part be impracticable to comply fully with those Indents, and therefore all that We do in such Case expect is to receive a proportionate Quantity of the several Articles indented for, according to the Tonnage Which you take up.

24. It is however, not only an Inconvenience, but a considerable Loss to the Company, When our Indents for Stores cannot be complied with as in such Cases when your Supplies are expected. We are obliged to purchase What is brought out for private Sale at extravagant Rates. This has of late

25. At the foot of the Indents from the Military Storehouse We have inserted such Remarks, as have occurred in the Course of the year on the nature and quality of several articles Which Remarks We request may be favoured with your Attention.

27. We are quite sensible of the great importance of the China Trade and shall in Future as We have hitherto, pay all due attention to the encouragement thereof, by furnishing to it such Supplies of Cons. Treasure as our Circumstances can possibly allow us to spare. You have already been advised of our consigning five Lacks to Fort St. George Presidency for this Service the beginning of the present year but We cannot yet ascertain what sum We shall be able to furnish towards that Branch for the ensuing year as the provision of our own Investment will require large advances and the Demands for our Military Expences are uncertain. If the Circumstances of the Country should be favorable to the Nabob so as to enable his Discharging the Thirty Lacks stipulated by Treaty Within the Season proper for dispatching Money to China We shall not fail to remit to Fort St. George as large a sum as We can spare for that Trade.

28. The Gentlemen at Bombay have also drawn on Us such Sums as they had an Opportunity of taking up for their Remittances to China and other Occasions and in consequence of the permission granted them We expect further Drafts Which shall likewise be honoured.

29. We fear that We shall not be able to Supply Bombay with any Salt Petre this Season, as the quantities first expected from Patna must be applied to the Dispatch of the Boscawen and Deptford, and the latter Receipts from.

thence will be too late to arrive at Bombay for the dispatch of their Ships to Europe of which We have given them early Notice,

30. The Stores We have laden on the Lord Clive for Fort Marlbro' are Conformable to their Indent of last year with regard had to a few alterations
 Cons. specified in their Letter of the 4th of June. This Letter
 31st Octr, indeed is said to cover a fresh Indent but the Triplicate only having come to hand, there was no Copy of the Indent enclosed. We therefore thought it the most proper method to make up the Stores as above-mentioned and if there are any other Articles required by the Indent When received We shall prepare and forward them by the Nancy Ketch.

31. We have paid all possible attention to the manufacture of Gun Powder, and given Mr. Smith all the assistance in that Branch he has ever desired. The Powder he has made has turned out upon Proof to be better in quality than any that was made at the same Mills under Mr Costelly's direction as appears by a Report of that proof entered after our Consultation of the 17th of March last. The Chief Complaint, however, against all the Powder manufactured in India is, that it loses the primitive Strength and quality by being kept for any time. But as we have had no Complaints of this kind in the experience of the present Campaign, We hope Mr. Smith has in part effected the Improvements he promised and that your Honors will find it so on a Trial of the Samples sent home by the Royal George and Ashburnham.

Thirdly of Investments

32. We have already remarked to you that a great Deficiency must be expected in the provision of this year's Investment from the troubles in the Country, but the particulars of this Deficiency cannot yet be ascertained. We find in general that the greatest part of the Goods of Dacca, Cossimbuzar, and Maulda Factories will be recovered, but from Patna we are advised that all the Cloth Investment was plundered by the Enemy and that a considerable Quantity of the Salt Petre having shared the same Fate, it will fall short at least Twenty thousand maunds of last year. The quantity they give us Reason to expect in the Whole is fifty thousand Maunds but as the greatest part of that is yet unboiled, it must necessarily be extremely late of arriving and of Course not answer the Assistance We would wish for Dispatching our Ships early and supplying the other Presidencies.

33. The Deficiency Which will arise in the Investment of Cossimbuzar Factory and the Calcutta Aurungs, is not only owing to the Troubles, but a preceeding Want of Money which disenabled us from making the early advances, and after the War broke out every Rupee of our Collections being required for the Expences of the Army and dispatched accordingly from Burdwan. We remained unable to furnish the necessary Supplies notwithstanding the Representations of the Export Warehouse Keeper.

30th May, 28th June
 20th Oct.

34. In the ensuing year We hope as We have mentioned in the 27 Paragraph that the Nabob may be able to make us considerable payments towards the Discharge of the Thirty Lacks, at least so much as to answer our Military Disbursements and leave us the Sums Which came in from the Revenues to be advanced in the proper Season for our Investment and the China Trade.

35. In the 51' Paragraph of your Letter of the 9' of March you disapprove of the Purnea Salt Petre sent in the Warren. The price was higher than usual as it was purchased in Calcutta instead of being provided at the Aurungs but as to the quality We had reason to hope it would have met with approbation as you expressly wrote for it in the 74' Paragraph of your Letter of the 1st of April 1760 particularly recommending it as the best sort, notwithstanding the brown Colour. And having now obtained the Nabob's Orders for purchasing one half of the Petre of that province, We shall be able to procure it at an easy rate and hope it will prove of good assistance in returning the Ships of this and the other Presidencies.

36. With respect to the large quantity of Salt Petre sent by the Ships of the year 1761 which you complain of as having brought the Cargoes to too small Value it proceeded from your own Directions contain'd in the 18 and 72 Paragraph of your Letter of the 1st of April and the 51' Paragraph of your Letter of the 31' December 1760 to return all the Ships the same Season to England even if they were somewhat Dead Freighted, and in loading them to be careful they should turn out of equal and moderate Value if a less quantity of Salt Petre had been sent and more Bale Goods. The Ships could not have been all returned and those that were dispatched must have been more Valuable than we supposed to be agreeable to your Intention in Time of War.

37. We flatter ourselves you will be convinced you have censured us Without Reason in both the foregoing Instances and the Supposition Which you are pleased to make in the 46' Paragraph of your Letter of the 9' of March of our assisting the Dutch Investment and again in the 64 Paragraph of our sacrificing the Interest of our Employers to private Views are Reflections Which We have not merited. How true these Imputations may be with respect to the Servants of the Dutch Company We shall not undertake to answer but We are very sorry that you so readily agreed in drawing a parallel between us and them. Your list of Investment has always been complied with as far as We could furnish Money for the Provision, and We are well convinced that none of your Servants have ever interfered in the purchase of any article of the Company's assortments, unless their Orders have been first completed.

38. You take notice that the Bills drawn on you by the returning Ships of 1761 exceeded the amount of the Cost of their Cargoes. This was owing to the Godolphin not gaining her Passage out of the River for if she had proceeded and arrived safe she would have been found to have a Cargo equal to the rest and but small Drafts.

39. This year as the Investment will fall so much short by the Occasion
of the Troubles We have determined to limit our Drafts
Cons. 7 Novr. to fifteen Lacks.

40. The whole Quantity of Salt Petre in our Warehouse being about four
thousand six hundred Maunds We have laden on board the Osterley and as
10th Novr. We could not depend on the timely arrival of a further
supply from Patna, We resolved to complete her Loading
with Bale goods endeavoring for that purpose to purchase with ready
Money such additional quantities of Gurrahs and other Coarse goods as
might be met with. Her Cargo will nevertheless amount to more than the
Ships dispatched from hence of late years have usually done, and more than
the Two Ships which are to follow her this Season; as We shall not have an
equal proportion of Bale Goods to load on them, and therefore purpose giving
to each about seven thousand five hundred Maunds, or two hundred and
fifty Tons of Salt Petre.

41. For want of Salt Petre We do not load on the Osterley, the 25 Tons
of Surplus which you have directed, but if We received a sufficient quantity
of that Article, We have ordered the Warehouse Kee-
3d Novr. per to observe it in the other Dispatches.

42. In the Month of October a violent Storm happened near Luckypore
which caused a sudden Inundation from the River, and destroyed a
number of people with all the houses upon the Island,
17th Oct. excepting the Company's Factory of Which also the
outer houses, such as Godowns & cta were many destroyed and the rest much damaged. The Chief and Council requested our
Orders on this Occasion representing the great Repair which would be necessary as well for the Company's Business, as for resettling the Habitations
of the Riots[ryots] and other People employed in their Service, also of the
bad Situation of the Factory house from the frequent encroachments
of the River, after a due consideration thereof of all these Circumstances
and of the Expense which would be incurred without answering any good
purpose as we could not provide against the encroachments of the River,
It was readily agreed to be most for your Interest to withdraw entirely
the Factory of Luckypore and transfer the Business of that Investment to
Chittagong by which Measure not only the Expences of Luckypore Factory
would be saved to the Company, but a great prospect open'd of increasing
the Revenues, Trade and Manufactures of your own province. We
accordingly sent Directions to the Chief and Council at Chittagong to
give all due encouragement to weavers and other manufacturers to remove,
and settle upon their Lands that as great a part of the Investment as
possible might be made within that Circle, and such other part as from
the distance could not be immediately brought into the Province We
directed to be managed by one of their Assistants residing at Colinda,
who should also collect the revenues of the Luckypore Talookdarree.

And the business of the Aurungs at Chaundpore we put again under the the Inspection of the gentlemen at Dacca.

Fourthly of the Country Government

43. The Transactions which were usually advised to your Honors under this Head, you will now find addressed in a Separate Letter.

44. Having experienced a great inconvenience and Irregularity from Keeping the Diary and proceedings of our Commercial Business and the Transactions with the Country Government and Military Operations all in one Book, We have laid a plan for carrying on the Business in future in two distinct Departments, The more full Regulations of Which you will find enter'd in our Consultation of the 3d. of November, and agreable thereto We shall henceforward transmit you Distinct Letters, Books of Consultations, &c. on the Affairs of their respective Branches.

Fifthly of Rents and Revenues

45. We have been so fortunate during the course of these Troubles, as to maintain the Burdwan Province free from any Inroads excepting some Districts lying near Cutwa Which may have suffered some inconsiderable Damage.

46. The Revenue stipulated this year for the Company from that Province is thirty four Lacks, the same as the agreement for last, but by the general Accounts We have hitherto received of the Balances not paid up by the Farmers, it would appear to Us that the Lands will not yield the increased Rent, bid upon them at the last Sale made in June 1762 and from the Collections which have come in. That the Adjustment of Rents made by Mr. Sumner seems to be nearer their true Value, and as much as We think will in the end be received.

47. This leads us to take notice of your having misunderstood the state of the Burdwan accounts of the year 1760 and 1761. You mention that Mr. Sumner appears to have raised the Rents from Ten Lacks to Thirty-two Lacks, Whereas the first Sum was only the Ballance of the Rents of that year after allowing about twelve Lacks paid to the Nabob and between five and six Lacks deducted for Damages sustained by the Marottas so that the Whole of that year's Rent amounted nearly to Twenty Eight Lacks of Rupees from Which Mr. Sumner the next year Computed and raised it, to above thirty two.

48. This is certainly the most valuable and extensive Branch of your Revenues and We therefore have it in view agreable to your Recommendation, to increase the Number of Servants employed in the Management of it.

49. The Revenues of Midnapore have been very well paid up, and some small increase obtained by a Tax laid upon Lands before held rent free and We have reason to expect there will be further improvements annually.

50. Our Expectations of Chittagong are yet greater. The Lands cleared since the time of our taking Possession are considerable and already begun
 Cons. to pay some Rent and from the further Advantages
 31st Octr. and Improvements Which will accrue to its Trade and Manufactures under our Government. We have firm hopes that it will become a very Valuable Settlement To assist Which and that there may be no Want of Servants to attend to the several Improvements and the increase of Business which We have now thrown into their hands We have appointed two additional Members to their Council which thereby consists of a Chief and four.

51. The Expedition undertaken last year from Chittagong to Meckely was unable to proceed further than the Country of Kochar on account of the violent Rains, and having been canton'd there sometime, were upon the Troubles breaking out recalled to Dacca, where they arrived very opportunely to assist in Retaking the Factory. Should we see any promising opportunity of opening a Communication to the Eastern Countries, that might tend to the benefit of your Trade by affording a Consumption of Woolen Manufactures, and other Europe Exports We shall not fail to embrace it.

52. The Method resolved on last year of Collecting immediately from the Riots in the Calcutta Purgunnas has not only answered the end of making us better acquainted with the Lands, but also upon the whole added to their Produce. We have therefore determined to continue the same form of Management at least for the present year including likewise the Purgunna of Magoorra of which the Farmer's Lease expired last April.

53. We mentioned in our Letter of the 30th October 1762 the increase
 25th July Which was expected in your Revenues from the Salt Pans in the Calcutta Lands and of the Method proposed for raising that increase, being a Tax of thirty Rupees on each Salt Pan. The Number worked last Season was 26543/4 including those called Cas which altogether produced an Increase in the Revenue of more than a Lack of Rupees and We have continued the same method for the present year.

54. The Merchants who worked the Salt before having delivered in
 19th Sept. their accounts of outstanding Ballances due from the Molungees (or Labourers) to the Committee of Lands, the same after many Examinations were adjusted and agreed at the Sum of Arcot Rupees 4,4,4,896-7-9. As these Labourers have no Possessions or Effects, and can only discharge their Debts by their Work. We agreed with the Merchants to become answerable for the Ballances and pay them in four annual Dividends, and for your Security and Reimbursement We resolved that the present Merchants should pay at the rate of forty Rupees for each hundred Maunds of Salt of Which thirty should go to the Molungees for their Labour, and the other Ten be paid into the Treasury and brought to account of the Bonds granted for these Ballances. For the more particular proceedings in this Branch We refer you to the Diaries of the Committee of Lands which are very Complete.

55. With respect to the President's Commission on the Revenues. You are pleased to mention that you cannot determine Whether it shall be granted him on the whole, or a part of them, Until you are ascertained what their whole produce may be. This you must have been fully enabled to judge of, by the several accounts already transmitted you. We have paid him hitherto only the amount of the Calcutta purgunnas, and we shall continue to wait your Orders for what further is to be paid him on this account.

56. We wait the arrival of Mr. Campbell, to write you fully on the State of the Mint, Which We have however the pleasure to acquaint you—grows more beneficial. By the accounts of that Branch from August 1761 to October 1763 laid before us by Mr. Beaumont on his quitting the Office, We find a Net profit coming to the Company of 333572-14-9 Current Rupees besides the Coinage of very large Sums, on their own Account clear of Expences.

57. Mr. Beaumont has also delivered in a Letter in answer to the 35' paragraph of your Commands of the 9' of March regarding the difference in the Standard of Rupees, which Letter with the Accounts above mentioned are entered after our Consultation of the 21' November, and copies of them go, Numbers in this Ships Packet for your Honours' Observation.

Sixthly of Fortifications and Buildings

58. The new Fort altho far from complete is now in such a state as to be every way defensible against an Enemy but when once it is entirely finished it may with a Moderate Garrison be deemed impregnable in this Country. And it will then be such a Security to the Company's Establishment and valuable possessions in Bengal, that we think the Expence which will yet be required to bring it to this State should by no means be spared, especially as it does not strike at once into the Companys' funds, but is an annual Charge, or as it were a Tax on the Revenues they draw from the Country.

59. The Work which was done the last Season consisted chiefly of the Magazines and Barracks. The Engineers having also recommended the Ravelin and Counterguard on the North side as a work necessary to be completed on account of the Vicinity of the Town, Which rendered that side weaker and more liable to an attack, they were begun upon before the last Rains, and are now in great forwardness. In the course of this Season We hope they will be completed and the Counterscape of the Ditch faced all round.

60. In the first plan of the Fort, there was no Gate designed towards the River; But this in a Trading Settlement is so necessary a Communication for the more easy conveying of Goods to and from the Shipping that We have determined one shall be

built, and having approved of a plan laid before us by the Engineer it is now in hand.

61. We acquainted you last year that on the Resignation of Mr. Amphlett, the management of the Fort was committed to the Care of Captain Polier, and as We find that he exerts himself with much Diligence and application, and from the Knowledge he has now gained of the Work in hand seems to be very capable of completing it. We beg leave to recommend him to your Honours to be confirmed for that purpose in the Station of Engineer.

62. In this Packet he has transmitted a Letter acquainting you more particularly with the work that has been done at the Fort since the Time he took Charge.

63. Considering the great expence of Temporary Buildings at Chittagong, and the prospect of its becoming a flourishing and advantageous Settlement. We have determined to fix on the plan of
 Cons. 7th Nov. a Fortification there with all the necessary Buildings for the Residency of your Servants, and carrying on your Business. We accordingly expect Mr. Plaisted's Survey and Opinion, and in the mean time, We have directed them to be as frugal as possible in their temporary Buildings with a view that all future Charge of that Nature should be so laid out, as to tend towards the accomplishment of the general Plans.

Seventhly of Covenant and Military Servants and their Accounts

64. In our last Letter by the Royal George and Ashburnham, We informed you of Mr. Amyatt's being killed in his return from Mongheer to Calcutta and that the Survivors of his party, with a Number more of your Servants belonging to the Patna and Cossimbuzar Factories were Prisoner in the hands of the late Nabob Cossim Aly Cawn. It is with the Deepest Concern We now acquaint you that all those Gentlemen who were Prisoners were Massacred by his Order at Patna the fifth and sixth of October.

65. The List of all who have Suffered in these Troubles is as follows :

31st Oct.	Messrs. Amyatt Ellis Hay	} of Council
	Messrs. Chambers Lushington Howitt	} Senior Servants
	Messrs. Lyon Oakes Smith Amphlett Bennet W : : ton	} Factors

Messrs. Gulston	}	Writers
Eyton		
Lake		
Hutchinson		
Round		
Collings		
Croke		

Messrs. Crooke one of the Head Surgeons at Calcutta.
 Ham Surgeon at Cossimbuzar Factory.

66. Besides the above nineteen lost on this Melancholy Occasion the following others have Died Viz., Mr. Edward Bates
 Cons. 13th June
 21st Nov. Writer the 11th of June Mr. Charles Harrington Factor
 the 20th of November, and Mr. John Worthington Turner, appointed a
 Writer this Year about 18 Months ago.

67. Mr. McGwire having resigned your Service took his passage to
 10th Oct. Europe on the Ship Royal George.

68. And the four Vacancies occasioned in Council by these Events
 31st Oct. have been filled up by Messrs. Senior, Middleton,
 Leycester and Burdett.

69. Mr. Batson is appointed to the Chiefship of Patna, Mr. Watts to
 10th Oct. be Resident at the Durbar and Mr. Senior to be Chief
 31st Oct. of Cossimbuzar and for the other appointments on the
 Civil Establishment We refer you to the Usual List transmitted in the Packet.

70. Thirty Two Officers belonging to the Patna Detachment and Mr.
 Anyatt's Party were likewise cut off in the Massacre at Patna, several
 Others have been Killed in Action, and died since our last advices. We
 have therefore collected the whole into a List which we transmit for your
 Information in this Ship's Packet as also another containing the Promo-
 tions made in consequence on the Military Establishment.

71. We acquainted you in our last of having promoted Captain Knox
 to a Majority in your Service; and upon the receipt of his Majesty's Orders
 for the recall of the 84th Regiment it being judged by us and Major Adams
 that the most effectual way of securing the Men for your Service would be
 to appoint one of their own Officers to Command them, We made choice of
 Captain Irving, a young Officer of whose great Bravery and abilities we had
 had particular Instances in the course of the Campaign, and having received
 Major Adams' Consent, We promoted him to a Majority, but before he could
 receive his Commission he was Killed in the Assault at Patna.

72. We have now proposed to grant the same Rank to Captain Charles
 Long another Officer of the 84th Regiment of a general good Character and
 long experience in the Military and we wait Major Adams' approbation and
 Consent to his Stay to give him a Commission.

73. Captain John Freake who came out with your Troop of light Cavalry having laboured under a bad state of health applied to us for Liberty to exchange into the King's Regiment Where he had a prospect of soon returning to England. This Request we granted him and Captain George Whichcote having obtained a like permission from Major Adams, an Exchange was effected, whereby Captain Whichcote became our Captain of Cavalry and Captain Freake went into the 84th Regiment.

74. Captain William Jennings arrived in the Lord Clive and had a Commission granted him according to your appointment, Lieutenant Burghall who arrived at same time was promoted in a very few Days to be Captain Lieutenant upon our Establishing a third Company of Artillery Soon after he applied to Us for leave to return to England offering his Services to raise a Company in answer to Which We informed him it was the Rule of your Service for all Officers returning to England to Resign their Commissions, and that it remained in your Breast only to grant them the Indulgence of Coming out again. Whereupon he replied that being made acquainted with this Rule he had no Intention of quitting your Service. We were therefore much surprised to receive another Letter from him soon after resigning his Commission, and We cannot help observing on the Whole that his Conduct has appeared very wavering and unsettled which seems to have proceeded from a Notion that he merited more speedy Preferment than the Service would allow of, or he had any right from your appointment to expect.

75. Mr. Furnival Bowen whom you have appointed one of your Chaplains arrived in the Pigot. And Mr. Edward Croke who had your Permission to come out to this Place has requested to remain at Fort St. George, finding that Climate more suitable to his infirm Constitution.

76. Mr. Bartholomew Plaisted has been advised of his appointment and directed to remain at Chittagong where We still find him very useful in making Draughts, Surveys &c.

77. All the Writers of this year are arrived excepting Messrs. Law and Van Rixtell and Mr. Holme absent on a voyage in India, We have called upon those who were abroad at the time of their appointment to execute the Covenants you sent out, and enjoined them to write to their Friends to enter into the necessary Security in England. The Covenants shall be returned in the next Ships Packet.

78. We shall also desire the other Gentlemen in your Service who have advanced in Station or come of Age to execute fresh Covenants agreeable to your Orders, and they shall also be forwarded in the next or following Ships Packets.

79. When we gave your Letters of this Season a Second Reading at the Board, We directed that your Orders with Regard to the privilege of Dustucks
 Cons. 27th Oct. should be carried into Execution intimating the same
 17th Nov. to all the Junior Servants at the Presidency and transmitting the necessary Instructions to the several Subordinate Factories.

80. At our Consultation of the 17th October Mr. Delaporte sent in a Letter informing us he had proceeded to the Factories of Cossimbuzar, Dacca
 17th Oct. and Luckypore, and having inspected and made himself acquainted with the Investment at each of these places, He had delivered his Remarks of the Improvements which he thought might be made to the Respective Chiefs and That he now desired our Order for his further proceeding. Having therefore consulted the Export Warehouse Keeper and discoursed personally with Mr.
 20th Oct. Delaporte on the Subject We resolved that he should make a Circuit of the Calcutta Aurungs to inspect and amend or improve the different Articles of the Investment Manufactured at them and That one of the Warehouse Keeper's Assistants should accompany him thereon for the Sake of Instruction.

81. Mr. McGwire before his Departure delivered in a Letter accompanied with the Copy of a Correspondence between him and the President in explanation of the Enquiry you directed to be made regarding the Ophium Trade. As these Letters are entered at large after the Consultation of the 3d of October, and Mr. McGwire himself is returned home, We refer you to them for further Information.

82. Mr. Hastings agreeable to your Standing Order gave in a Minute at our Consultation of the 3d of October declaring his Intention of returning to Europe next Season.

83. We have already acquainted you of our making an addition of Two head Surgeons at Calcutta, and judging it would be an encouragement to engage capable Men of that profession to come into your Service if a fixed Rule of preferment was Established in that Branch, We agreed upon the following Which we take the Liberty to recommend for your Confirmation.

First That at the Presidency there shall be four Head Surgeons with an allowance of 10 sh. a day, and the two Senior of those to have the Hospital Contract.

Secondly That there shall be four Surgeons with the same allowance Stationed at the Subordinates of Patna, Cossimbuzar, Chittagong, and Dacca and those to be the next in Rank to [be] head Surgeons, and succeed in their Rotation.

Thirdly That there shall be four Surgeons with the same Allowance appointed to attend the Army, who shall in like manner succeed to the Vacancies at Subordinates and the Presidency.

Fourthly, That there shall be twelve Surgeons Mates, of which the four Senior to attend the Hospitals at Calcutta with an allowance of 7/6 a day, and the other Eight to attend the Army With a pay of 5/ a day and the whole to succeed in their turn to be Surgeons.

84. Besides it is recommended to us, to appoint one Surgeons Mate for attending each Battalion of Seapoys of Whom a great Number being usually wounded in all the Actions our Troops are engaged in cannot receive the necessary assistance from the few Surgeons who attend the Army, and thereby many Suffer Who perhaps with due Care might be saved. If therefore this Plan should meet with your Approbation We hope you will use your Endeavors to send out a number of young Men who from having been instructed in the Rudiments of this Profession will by the Experience they may acquire in the Course of practice in this Country become capable judges of the Disorders incident to the Climate by the time they shall arrive at the Rank of Surgeons.

85. The Reinforcement sent us from Madrass consisted in great Measure of Recruits which came out on the Ships of this Season, and chiefly intended for this Presidency. We have incorporated them into our Battalion, and ordered the two Officers who conducted them here to return to the Coast.

86. Altho' We have already made frequent Representations on the Subject of the urgent necessity there is for a constant and large Supply of Recruits for your Military on this Establishment yet We cannot help repeating them at this Time on the occasion of his Majesty's Troops being withdrawn from India, more especially as We imagine the Restoration of Peace in Europe will enable you to engage what number you please without difficulty.

87. We are doing our utmost to engage as many of the 84' Regiment as
 Cons. it is possible to stay in the Country and have offered
 17th Oct. a Bounty of 10 £ to each Man. We hope the most part
 of them will enlist, but we must remark to you that the whole number fit for
 service will not exceed three hundred.

88. Nothing is so essential to the well conducting your business, as the
 having a Succession of Capable Men to fill the Posts of Secretary and Sub-
 8th Aug. Accomptant but as they are attended with extraordinary
 Labour and take up the whole Time and attention of
 the Gentlemen who have charge of them, so that they have little or no opportunity of engaging in any private Concerns, the appointments annexed to them have not been sufficient to encourage the young Servants to qualify themselves for those Trusts, on the contrary they have generally been regarded as a Burden, and Clog, and have for the most part been avoided rather than coveted. We have therefore with a view of promoting an emulation so much to be desired in your Service, annexed to the Posts of Secretary and Sub-Accomptant a Title to the preference of any Vacancy that may happen of a Post of greater Trust or advantage at the Presidency or any Subordinate after having Served in those Offices for the Term of three years to the Satisfaction of the Board. This Preference We hope your Honors will confirm

and likewise distinguish further by all reasonable marks of your Favor any Gentleman who may be recommended to you from those Offices.

89. We have already mentioned in the 44th Paragraph our having divided the Business of this Presidency into two distinct offices, Namely—The Public Department for transacting all commercial Affairs of the Country Government and Military Operations. We have placed our Secretary, Mr. Graham at the head of both Offices, and appointed Mr. Ashburner his Assistant in the Business of both. We have further stationed Mr. Case to be Sub-Secretary in the Public Department and Mr. Stuart in the Secret; Which Gradation We hope may be productive of an Emulation among the Younger Servants, and therefore meet with your Honors approbation.

90. In this place likewise it is requisite We should observe to you that Mr. Richard Barwell has been appointed Sub-Accomptant in the room of Mr. Dacres.

91. Neither can we omit making favorable mention of Mr. George Van Sittart who from a close Study and application has made himself in a great Measure, master of the Persian Language and Writing. Since the decease of Mr. Gulston We have appointed him to the office of Persian Translator: where he will have an Opportunity of completing his knowledge of that Language, and We daresay of recommending himself still further to your Honors Notice.

92. All your Servants belonging to the West Coast Establishment have proceeded thither excepting Mr. Henry Plowman. This gentleman has for these 18 Months been employed by the President in carrying on his mercantile Business, and is now become so absolutely useful to him therein, as the Management of public affairs does not admit of his attending thereto himself, That We could not refuse our Consent for his remaining in Bengal Which We hope your Honors will not disapprove.

93. In our Letters of last year we made mention to your Honors of Mr. William Lacam as being employed on the Fortifications in the office of Muster Master. In this Office he still continues to act with great assiduity and We beg leave to recommend him again for an Appointment on your List of Covenant Servants. We take the liberty also to recommend for the same purpose a young Gentleman Mr. Hugh Grant, Brother to Lieut. John Grant who is Secretary to Major Adams and for whom the Major having a high Esteem he would be well pleased this young Man could be thus provided for.

94. Mr. Hugh Cameron who has been taken into your Service here as Surveyor of Lands is the same Person who was formerly in your Military Service on the Bombay Establishment. Upon our giving him Notice of your Displeasure and Orders for his Dismission, he requested that he might have leave to represent his Case which he never before had an Opportunity of doing, and We judging this request to be highly reasonable permitted him to deliver a Letter to the Board, Which is entered on our Consultation of the 8th of August. We refer the same to your Honors Consideration, and in the mean time As

We are well satisfied with his behaviour since he has been here; and have found his Services very useful, and greatly tending to the Improvement of the Revenues of your new Lands We have presumed to suspend the Execution of your Orders, and to Keep him in the same useful Employment until We receive your further Determination.

Eighthly of Accounts

95. The General Books which were appointed to be brought up by Mr. Magee were sometime ago delivered in ballanced to April 1759, and are now forwarded by the Boscawen, The Journals on to April 1763 are brought up and are now regularly Kept up so that as soon as the necessary adjustments can be made and the Books balanced the remaining Setts shall be from Time to Time sent you and We hope the whole will be brought into the usua Order by next Season.

96. We have also directed an exact account of the Charge of French Prisoners to be prepared agreeable to your Orders, Which shall be sent as soon as it is ready.

97. We forwarded to you in Duplicate by the Royal George and Ashburnham Copy of the accounts Kept by the Comissioners of Restitution which with our Advices of the 30th of October 1762 will fully satisfy all your enquiries on that Subject.

98. At the Commencement of the War We ordered a separate account to be Kept of all the Expenses attending it to which We shall add also the Losses incurred at the Subordinate Factories, and let the whole against the thirty Lacks stipulated in the Treaty with the Nabob; and such account as soon as completed shall be forwarded for your Inspection.

Ninthly of the Dutch and Other European Nations in India

99. We have already acquainted you of the Agreement We entered into with the Dutch the beginning of the year for allowing them one third Share of the Salt Petre provided in Bahar, also of our proposal to them during the Troubles that they should collect the Whole at their Factory and divide it according to the proportions agreed on. We further acquainted you in our last of their evasive answer to this proposal and our Resolution in consequence to secure all the Petre we could for your Benefit. We now find that they have also taken advantage of these Troubles with respect to the Opium Trade, in so much that We are likely to meet with Difficulty in procuring even the small quantity wanted for Fort Marlbro'. The Originals of all their Letters concerning the Salt Petre We have transmitted in the Packet, and this Conduct of theirs has determined us to pay no regard to any applications for that Article unless it can be very well spared after answering fully our own Demands. /

100. We have used all our Diligence to satisfy the enquiries mentioned in the 63 Paragraph of your Letter of the 9th of March. Mr. Bisdoms' Letters, No. 6 in the Appendix to your Memorial were forwarded in Original by the Admiral Watson. As to the Argument mentioned in the last of these Letters We know nothing more than that by the Letter itself it is plainly implied some Agreement had been made. Of the Dutch Arzee No. 11 in the said Appendix We have no Original or ever had. We send you by this Ship a Copy Which We imagine must have been obtained soon after it was presented as it appears to be endorsed in the hand Writing of Mr. Cook the then Secretary. We send with it an exact English Translation by which you will find that the Dutch did really pretend to and Demand the first Purchase or Preference in buying Salt Petre and Opium from the Merchants. That they did present such an Arzee to Jaffer Aly Cawn is universally known and as to the particular Time the most exact Information We can now procure is from Mr. Hastings whose Report We likewise forwarded. You desire to be particularly informed as to the 13th Article of the Treaty with Jaffer Aly Cawn No. 9 in the Appendix to the Dutch Company's Report. In the original of that Treaty which We have and in all the Copies upon our Records there are only twelve Articles containing several stipulations to be performed by Meer Jaffier. If a 13th Article did really exist We suppose it must have been written on a separate paper signed by the President and Council and delivered to him, Which indeed appears to be very probable from a Letter of Mr. Watts to the Select Committee entered on their Proceedings of the 12th of May 1757 wherein he says that all the Articles of the Treaty were ready for Signing upon our agreeing to assist Meer Jaffier in putting him in possession and supporting him in the Government. We have further transmitted an Authentic Copy of the Grant for the exclusive purchase of Salt Petre with an English Translation. There is none of Lord Clives Country Correspondence either in Persian or English from the Month of April 1759 to the time of his Departure.

101. In our Letter of the 18 April We wrote you very fully regarding the
 Cons. Capture of the Susanna Margarita Snow bound from
 6th June Mauritius to Negapatam and forwarded the Account
 Sales of the Vessel and Cargo. We have since received a Letter from Mr.
 Scheepers in Support of his Claim the Original of which is transmitted in
 the Packet.

102. We have yet no Account of the Arrival of the French Commissarys in any part of India. However We have got in our hands the necessary Orders from the Nabob for the Restitution of their Factories, and shall put them in Possession of such as they prove their Title to according to the Treaty.

Tenthly of His Majesty's Sea and Land Forces

103. We have mentioned in our last Letter the arrival of the Yorke, Liverpool and Argo and Commodore Tinker has since
 31 Oct, arrived in his Majesty's Ship Medway. Upon our
 Ditto Application he landed the Marines from the several Ships to reinforce

the Army in Burdwan and in every other Respect has shewn a hearty desire to give his Assistance for re-establishing the Tranquility of the Country and securing the Company's Affairs.

104. We applied to the Commadore to Know if any of the Ships of his
 Cons. Squadron were destined for Europe and what number
 21st Novr. of Officers and Men of his Majesty's Regiment they
 could in such case accommodate; he informed us in Answer that the Liverpool
 Frigate was intended for England in the course of this Month and would be
 able to receive one Officer and 45 Private Men, which number We shall
 accordingly embark on her and the rest shall be divided in
 25th Novr. the most convenient manner on board the Company's
 Ships. The first division goes on this Ship the Osterley and you will receive
 the usual Lists both of Officers and Men in the Packet.

105. Concerning the Methods we have taken and the Success we have
 had in engaging the Men of the Regiment to remain in the Company's
 Service We have spoken fully under the Seventh head. We have likewise
 given Orders for receiving in to your Stores all the Arms which are fit for
 Service, and shall pass the usual Receipts for them to the proper Officers.

Eleventhly of Charter

106. In the Royal George's Packet We transmitted you the first Copy
 of all the Papers relative to the cause with Mary
 10th Octr. Delore, and now forward a Duplicate by the Osterley.

107. The Attorney for John Durand & cta has presented to us his Majesty's
 Decree in the Cause concerning the Ship Restitution and We have accord-
 ingly Discharged the Amount being CRs. 74138- 14- 6.

108. Sensible of the Difficulties mentioned in the 121 and 122 Paragra-
 phs of your Commands of the 9th of March concerning a Method of levying
 a Tax or an assessment upon the Inhabitants for repairing of Roads, Drains
 and other public Works of the Town We have fallen upon a Method Which
 We think will answer the purpose, and be Subject to no Kind of Dispute by
 doubling the Ground Rent which was before Rated much lower than it would
 reasonably bear in proportion to the high price of Houses in the Town, and
 the usual rate of ground Rent in other Parts of the Country, by this Method
 an annual Increase of about 20,000 Rupees is brought into your Revenues
 and is levied in the most equal Manner upon the Inhabitants, every one
 paying in proportion to the Possession he holds.

Supplement

109. As We particularly noticed to your Honors in the 32 Paragraph of
 our Separate Letter of the 29th of September, our Opinion with regard
 to the Loss of the Factory at Dacca, it is necessary We should now acquaint
 you that Lieutenant Lewis Brown the Officer who commanded then has

had his Conduct enquired into before a Court of Officers to whom having made it appear that the Factory in its then Condition was not terrible he was unanimously acquitted, and as it appears both from the Account sent us by the Gentlemen of the Factory and Mr. Brown's answer to the Charge before the Court of Enquiry that it was with his advice and approbation the Resolution was taken to retire from the Factory. We must think this a strong Argument in exculpation of our Gentlemen's Conduct on that Occasion.

110. By your Ship Royal George We licensed one Bulse of Diamonds Value Current Rupees 3950--. and by this Ship We have licensed sundry Diamonds and Precious Stones to the value of Arcot Rupees 20967-8, of which the particulars will appear by the Manifest in the Packet.

111. We have laden and consigned to your Honors by this Ship the Osterley sundry Goods and Merchandize amounting to Current Rupees 9,26 700-. the particulars whereof are agreeable to the Invoice and first Bill of Lading enclosed.

112. We have also laden on her Sundry Stores for the use of your Island of St. Helena amounting to Current Rupees, 1,570-14-as. 9 p. Invoice and Bills of Lading enclosed to the Governor and Council there.

We are with the greatest Respect,

Honble Sirs,

Your most faithful and Obedient Humble Servants

Fort William,
The 19th December 1763.

Henry Van Sittart/Wm. Billers/Warren Hastings/
Randh Marriot/H. Watts/John Burdett.

Postscript

We have drawn upon your Honors by this ship 24 Sets of Bills of Exchange at 365 Days, and the usual particulars Whereof are as follows and amount in all to Current Rupees 4,59,443/11/9 £ Str 53,601/14/10.

Setts	Value Received of	CRs.	To Whom Payable	£ Str	Terms
1	John Graham Account Alexander Dow	2186- 6- 0	Alexander Grant	255- 1- 6	
1	John Freake	1071- 7- 0	Thomas Nutall.	125- 0- 0	
1	Anthony Polier Account Lauchlin Mc Lean Junr.	3975- 0- 6	Archibald McLean	463-15- 0	
1	Randolph Marriot and John Graham	40419- 4- 6	William Mc Gwire and Arthur Annesley	4715-11- 7	
1	Do. and Do. Actt. Wm. McGwire	4240- 0- .	Nicholas Skottowe	494-13- 4	
1	James Lawrell	445- 7- .	James Spalding and Jms Seawell	51-19- 4	
1	Chrisr. Oliphant Trustee to the Estate of Josh Gething Deced 15015-15-	15015-15- .	Sr Joseph Sr. Thomas Hankey and Co	1751-17- 2	
1	John Johnstone	3428- 9- 3	Sr. James Johnstone and Samuel Hannay	400- .- .	
1	Henry Van Sittart Esqre	73437 .- .	The Rt. Hon. Robert Lord Clive	8567-13- .	
1	Do. Actt. the Estate of Col. Carriere	7645- 4- 9	Arthur Van Sittart and Edmund Boehm	891-18-11	
1	Anselm Beaumont Acct. the Estate of Capt. Alex Zeigle	2780- 5- 3	Richard Gaman	324- 7- 5	
1	Anselm Beaumont	6299- 5- 9	Thomas Raitte	734-18- 6	
1	Ditto	579- 5- .	Roger Drake	67-11- 9	
1	Robt Gregory the Actt. of a Legacy left by Rich. Finley Deced. 9492- 6- 9	9492- 6- 9	William Finley	1107- 9- .	
1	Ditto the Amt. of Do. by Do.	9492- 6- 9	Jane Hunter	1107- 9- .	
1	Robt Gregory Acct. Geo. Clive	10285- 7- 6	George Clive	1199-19- 3	
1	Robert Gregory Acctot. Joseph Smith	33951- 1- 9	Joseph Smith	3960-19- 3	
1	Do Acctot. Eyre Evans Crawe	14000- .- .	Eyre Evans Crawe	1633- 6- 8	
1	Leycester and Charlton Acctot. the Estate of Willm. Forth	2569-10- .	Beecher and Nixon	299-15- 9	
1	Anselm Beaumont Acctot. Stanlake Batson	184363-14- 3	James and Edward Buckely Batson	21509- 2- 5	
1	John Wood for Bartholomew Plaisted Attor: to Jonathan Ranson	4000- .- .	Jcnathan Ranson	466-13- 4	
1	President and Council of Fort William	3370-14- 6	Lawrence Sullivan for the use of the Marine Society	393- 5- 6	
1	Richard Barwell Acott, Major Randfurlie Knox	4285-11- 6	Arnold Nisbett	500- 0- 0	
1	Lieut. John Grant	22108-12- 9	The Revd. Mr. John Grant	2579- 7- 2	
Current Rupees 459443-11-9				£ Sterling	53601-14-10

24 Setts

We have also drawn on you 41 Setts payable at 2/4 p Current Rupee and Ninety Days after Sight amounting to Current Rupees 79023-13-£ Sterling 9219-8-9 as follows.

Setts	Value Received of	CRs	To Whom Payable	£ Str
1 John Hartland	.	.	John Hartland	430-.-
1 Major Charles Long	.	.	Mrs. Margaret Long	500-.-
1 Samuel Henry Mangin	.	.	Charles Hambleton	560-.-
1 John Reed	.	.	Leonard Ellington	129-6-10
1 John Johnstone	.	.	Saml. Hannay and Miss Edie and Laird	300-.-
1 Ditto	.	.	The Rev. Robt Petrie and Mr. Sam Hannay	100-.-
1 Chrisr. Theopholus Chaigneau	.	.	Chrisr. Theopholus Chaigneau	500-.-
1 John Graham Acco. Robt. Davidson	.	.	Robert Davidson	50-8-.
1 John Graham	.	.	John and William Mayne	217-15-7
1 John Graham	.	.	Miss Elizabeth Shewen	50-.-
1 Randolph Marriott and John Graham	.	.	Wm. Mc Gwire and Arthr Annesley	500-.-
1 John Wood Acco. Bartho. Plaisted	.	.	Thomas Burnett	100-.-
1 John Wood	.	.	Mrs Mary Wood	100-.-
1 Ditto	.	.	Jonathan Perrie and Jas. Leigh	80-.-
1 Gilbert Ironside	.	.	Mrs Ann Ironside	100-.-
1 Captn. Benjamin Wilding	.	.	Mr Bery Wilding	50-.-
1 William Bolts	.	.	John Miscnor	150-.-
1 George Strode	.	.	George Strode	159-3-4
1 William Magee	.	.	William Magee	100-.-
1 Do. Accot. George Hay	.	.	James Rannie	100-.-
1 Capt. Thos. Fenwick	.	.	Charles Raymond	300-.-
1 John Johnstone	.	.	Sr. Jams. Johnstone and Sml. Hannay	100-.-

19 DECEMBER 1763

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Setts	Value Received of	CRs	To Whom Payable	£ Str
1 Anselm Beaumont	.	4285-11-6	George Challoner	500-.-
1 Robert Gregory	.	428-9-	Crodeal Shaw	50-.-
1 Do. Acco. Saml. Middleton	.	4714-4-6	Henry Hastings	550-.-
1 Chas. Marsh Acco. Majr. Alisien	.	4285-11-6	Major Francis Alisien	500-.-
1 Charles Marsh	.	4285-11-6	Charles Marsh	500-.-
1 Bartholomew Case	.	650-13-	Bartholomew Case	75-18-7
1 Sutton Ranks	.	200-.-	Samuel Waller	23-6-8
1 Randolph Marriott Junr acco Do Do Senr	.	857-2-3	Mary Marriot	100-.-
1 Anselm Beaumont Accot. Stanlake Batson	.	4285-11-6	Jam. and Edwd. Buckely Batson	500-.-
1 Joseph Jekyll	.	857-2-3	Jno. Langmore, Elias Brownsword and Thomas Jekyll	100-.-
1 Thomas Tydd	.	1714-4-6	Thomas Tydd	200-.-
1 Robert Browne	.	428-9-3	Thomas Patterson Junr.	50-.-
1 Edward Menzies	.	857-2-3	Edward Ougston	100-.-
1 Tysoe Saul Hancock and Russell Skinner	.	1257-8-	Sarah Mapletoft	146-14-2
1 Lieut. Walter Onge	.	955-9-3	Lieut. Walter Onge	111-9-8
1 Richd. Barwell Acott. Major Randfurlie Knox	.	4285-11-6	Arnold Nibsett	500-.-
1 Capt. Page Keble	.	857-2-3	Charles Dick	100-.-
1 Majr. Alexr. Champion	.	2531-1-6	Mrs. Francis Champion and John Edison	295-5-11
1 Thomas Forbes Account Giles Stibbert	.	1714-4-9	George Watley	200-.-
41 Setts	Current Rupees	79023-13	£ Sterling	9219-8-9

We are,

Hon'ble Sirs,

Yours most faithful humble servants,

Henry Van Sittart/Wm. Billers/Warren Hastings/
Randh. Marriot/H. Watts/John Burdett.

Second Postscript

Our Army having proceeded with success to the Banks of the Carumnassa and Cossim Aly Cawn having entirely abandoned the Bengal Provinces, The President judging there remained no further appearance of hostilities, delivered this day in Consultation a Letter setting forth his Intention of quitting the Government and returning to Europe next Month in pursuance of his Resolution before notified. But rest of the Council being of Opinion that there remained many measures yet necessary to be taken for securing the Tranquility of the Country and guarding against any futures Disturbances and representing the great Benefit they would reap from his Assistance in transacting and settling these points, he has consented at their Request to remain in the Government another Season, for your Honors further Information in this point We forward in the Packet Copies of the President's Letter, and the answer wrote him by the Board.

We are,

Honble Sirs,

Your most faithful humble Servants,/

Fort William,
the 19 December 1763.

Henry Van Sittart/Wm. Billers/ Warren Hastings/
Randh. Marriot/ H. Watts/ John Burdett

Third Postscript

Since Closing our Advices for this Ship the Osterley we have drawn upon your Honors two further Setts of Bills of Exchange to which we request you will give due honor. The particulars are as follows :

Setts	Value Received	of	CRs.	To Whom Payable	£ Str
1	Lieut. Kenny Powell	.	1714- 4- 9	To Himself . . .	200- .- .
1	Lieut. William Brown	.	1080- . . .	To Himself . . .	126- .- .
<hr/>					
2	Setts	Current Rupees.	2794- 4- 9		£ Sterling 326- . - .

We are

Honble Sirs

Your most faithful humble Servants,

Fort William
the 20, December 1763.

Henry Van Sittart/ Wm. Billers/ Warren Hastings/
Randh. Marriot/H.Watts/John Burdett.

LETTER DATED 19 DECEMBER 1763

Capture of Monghyr and Patna—Mir Qasim's flight beyond Karamnasa into Oudh—massacre of British prisoners at Patna—negotiations with Shujaud-Daulah.

TO the Hon'ble the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies.

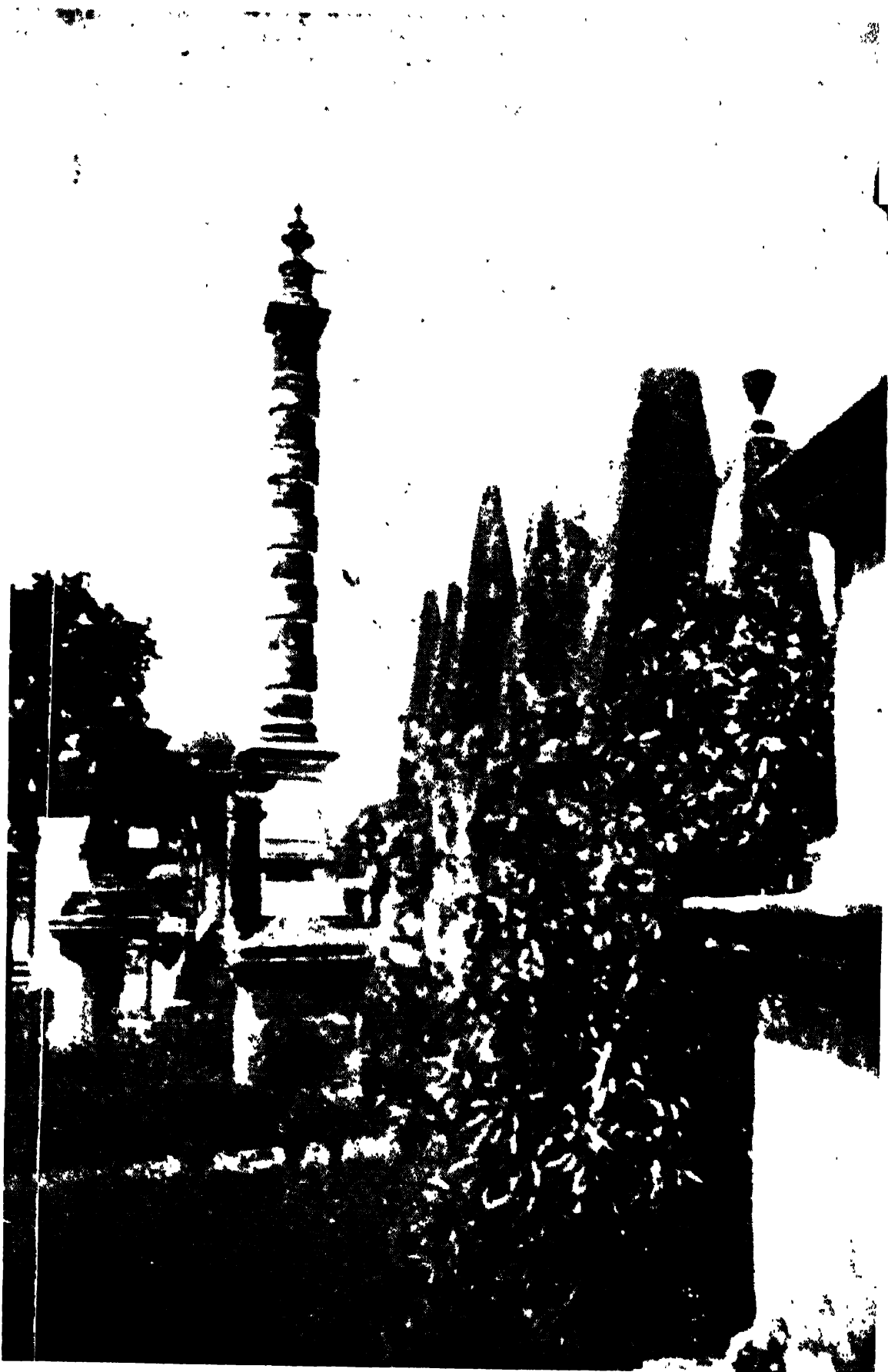
Hon'ble Sirs,

1. Our last separate Letter by the Royal George and Ashburnham advised you of the operations of the War, as far as the Capture of the Entrenchments at Ouda Nulla.

2. We are now to acquaint your Honors that the Army having proceeded
 Cons. on from thence laid Siege to the Fort of Mongheer
 17 Octob. which Place, without making any material Resistance
 14 Novr. surrendered at Discretion the 11 of [.....]. The Army
 there continued their March towards Patna, where having arrived and
 carried on the necessary approaches. The City was taken by assault the
 6 of November. In this attack, We had the Misfortune to lose Major John
 Irving, the Gentleman of whose promotion We advise you in our General
 Letter of this date, a very brave and deserving Officer.

3. Sometime before the Arrival of our Army at Patna, Cossim Aly Cawn
 12th Decr. quitted the Place and retired towards Rotas and a few
 days after the Reduction of the City, Major Adams
 again marched the Army in pursuit of him. But without waiting to give
 him Battle, he continued his Flight towards the Carumnassa, and by the
 last advices We are informed he has Crossed the great River with his few
 remaining Troops and Effects into the Dominions of Shuja Dowla; so that
 there is all reason to hope he will not be able to make any further head
 against Us.

4. We advised your Honors in our address of the 29th September that
 Cossim Aly Cawn in a Letter to Major Adams had threatened the Lives of
 the Gentlemen Prisoners in his hands. Of the terms we had proposed for
 their Release, (the only one we had it in our power to offer) and of their
 being well in Mongheer the 14 of that Month. It is with inexpressible Con-
 cern and Affliction, we have now to acquaint you that those horrid Threats
 have actually been carried into Execution, and to set before you a Scene of
 Barbarity shocking to human Nature. As our Army advanced, towards
 Mongheer the Gentlemen were removed from thence to Patna and Cossim
 Aly Cawn having also himself retired to Patna then took this fatal and desperate
 Resolution and immediately after fled towards the Limits of the Country.



Memorial Obelisk, Patna

If it is surprising that any Man should be so far lost to all Sense and Reason as to give so cruel an Order, it is yet more so that he should find another Capable of executing it. The Wretch who was the Instrument of this Barbarity is called Somroo, or Sombre and said to be a Native of Alsace. He went with two Companys of Seapoys and was personally the Commanding and Principal Actor in this Tragedy Which but to describe is a most painful Task.

5. Upon the first Receipt of this News from Major Adams We appointed a general Fast and Mourning and gave all the Public Marks of our Respect and Concern for the Memory of our unhappy Friends as will more fully appear in our Consultation of the 26 October.

6. Mr. Fullerton the Surgeon of your Patna Factory was the only Person
 Cons. spared in this Massacre, and on the Face of the
 14 Novr. Narrative he has formed, and transmitted to us Cossim
 19 Decr. Aly Cawn seems to have done this with a view of
 employing him to treat for Peace a most unaccountable Thought after
 such a Cruelty committed upon our Friends and Country men.

7. Amongst some other Papers preserved in the Dutch Factory and since transmitted to Calcutta, We found two Journals Kept by Messrs Peter Campbell and William Anderson two of the Gentlemen who were taken at Patna and Who suffered with the rest. As every Circumstance is interesting in a Calamity like this we have sent you in the Packet Copies of these Journals as well as of Mr. Fullerton's Narrative. We send likewise a general list of of the Names of all the gentlemen who have lost their Lives in these Troubles.

8. Whilst the war was carrying on between us and Cossim Aly Cawn the King and Shuja Dowla, advanced with their Army within a Day's march of Benaris, and sent a Detachment under Beny Bahadre one of their Principal Officers to that city. Shuja Dowla wrote to the Nabob and the President and Major Adams that he was coming with an Intention of assisting our Arms against Cossim Aly Cawn, but we, unwilling to give him any encouragement to enter these Provinces, wrote him in answer that our forces were more than sufficient to defeat all our enemies and only desired his Assistance for securing Cossim Aly Cawn, with his Effects, if he should make his Flight that Way.

9. The continued success of our Arms produced Replies to these letters, which contained still further assurances of Shuja Dowla's Friendship with promises of any grants and privileges that we might ask from the King and a proposal that we should send a gentleman to the court to treat them. As we think it will be useful and necessary to have more perfect accounts of the proceedings and views of Shuja Dowla and his connections with the other chiefs of the Empire, and as his dominions border on those of Bengal, a defensive alliance would be for our Mutual interest. We have assured him of our readiness to enter into such an alliance and have determined to send a gentlemen to him as soon as we are satisfied it can be done with safety and any prospect of advantage to your affairs or the Bengal provinces.

10. We have appointed Mr. Marriot for this Embassy, but we shall not hastily enter into any articles that may extend our connection beyond Bengal. The Maintaining the Tranquility of which shall always be our Principal object, and the forming new alliances only considered in a secondary light to that.

We are, with the greatest respect,

Hon'ble Sirs,

Your most faithful and
Obedient humble Servants

Fort William,
the 19 December 1763.

Henry Van Sittart / Wm. Billers / Warren
Hastings / Randh. Marriot/H. ' Watts / John
Burdett

48

LETTER DATED 24 DECEMBER 1763

Vansittart agrees to stay another year in Bengal.

TO The Honble Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honble United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies.

Honourable Sirs,

[1.] I addressed you fully upon the Situation of your Affairs under this Presidency the 8th of October, last in duplicate by the Ships Royal George and Earl of Ashburnham and acquainted you with my intention of returning to Europe this Season in case the War was brought to a conclusion so that I could leave your Settlements in a State of Security.

[2.] By the General advices now transmitted by the Osterley you will be informed that Cossim Aly Cawn, unable to make any further opposition against our forces has been obliged to quit these Provinces, and fly into Shuja Dowla's Country after putting into Execution his most fatal and desperate Resolutions of destroying all the Gentlemen and others of our Nation who were Prisoners in his hands. We have spoken fully of all the particulars of this horrid Massacre in our general Letter. But I can never say enough to express the Sentiments of Grief and Affliction which I felt upon this Melancholy news.

[3.] Most of Cossim Aly Cawn's Forces have left him or been discharged, and it is said that Shuja Dowla has put a Guard over the treasure and Effects he carried with him in short in all probability We shall never hear more of him, but it may be necessary for some time to keep a force upon the Frontier to prevent any of the Straggling Troops which have been dispersed during

the troubles from Collecting again into a Body and attempting to ravage the Country.

[4.] The War being thus at an end I acquainted the Board the 19th Instant of my Intention of quitting the Government next Month together with such observations as occurred to me on the present state of the Country. Upon receipt of this declaration the Gentlemen of the Council thought proper to address me in a Letter expressing their opinion that my remaining in the Government was essentially necessary to the Welfare of the Company's Interest and requesting that I would stay until the Receipts of your Orders. As I have always preferred my Duty to my Employers before all other Considerations I have resolved in Consequence of this address to stay another Season notwithstanding the very uncertain state of my health. I shall do my utmost towards preserving the tranquility of the Country establishing good Order in the Nabob's Government and improving and well conducting the Company's Revenues and trade.

Fort William
24 December 1763
[Triplicate]

I am with great Respect,
Honble Sirs,
Your faithful and Obedient Humble Servant,
Henry Van Sittart.

49

LETTER DATED 24 DECEMBER 1763

Vansittart considers clash between Company and Nawab of Bengal inevitable.

TO the Honble Secret Committee.

Honourable Sirs,

[1.] I addressed you the 8th of October last in duplicate by the Royal George and Ashburnham.

[2.] You will be informed by the general Advices that the War in this Country is brought to a Conclusion and Meer Jaffier again in possession of the Government. It shall be my duty to preserve him in it as long as I remain in Bengal but the present System is such that it is with great difficulty a friendship can be maintained with any Nabob. Our connections in the Country are so extended by the pursuit of private trade through a Number of new Channels in distant parts of the Country and the authority of our Agents so overgrown by the influence they derive from the English name that the Nabob's Fougedars and Collectors dare not exercise the Duties of their offices where any English agent or Gomastah, or any Merchant or inhabitant of the Country dealing with them is in the least concerned. This

occasions continued Complaints from the Nabob. Already many such have come from Meer Jaffer in terms just the same as were before used by Meer Cossim.

[3.] If on the other hand a full power be given to the Nabob's Officers nine of them out of ten will abuse it and totally obstruct the business of the English Gomastahs in which case a violent Clamour is immediately raised on our side.

[4.] Thus are the two Governments continually clashing and without the greatest moderation in the Chiefs of both it is impossible for a friendship to subsist long. Upon the whole therefore I must give it as my opinion that our Connections in this Country are at present on a point where they cannot stand. They are either too great or too little and as we have fatally experienced that you cannot always depend upon having a Succession of moderate men in your Council I must recommend it to your most serious consideration to provide a remedy against future Dangers of the same Nature. In my Letter to the Court of Directors of the 8th October last by the Royal George and Ashburnham I mentioned some regulations which might be made to prevent those frequent causes of Complaint, and a more exact method of enquiring into such as might happen; but I really fear that all those precautions would prove insufficient because the distance of some of the places where the Gomastahs are employed is such that it will be almost impossible to come at the truth so that I apprehend no remedy will be found effectual, but the restraining the private trade in the manner mentioned in my said Address unless it shall be resolved to extend the Company's authority further and render the Nabob entirely dependent and incapable of asserting any rights of his own Government but through yours.

[5.] We have as yet no Accounts of the arrival of the French Commissaries in any part of India Commodore Tinker is at present here, but will leave the River and proceed to the Coast the end of next Month unless any new Event should make it necessary to request his longer stay; in which case I am persuaded of his Compliance as he has shewn the utmost readiness in granting every Assistance that has been asked of him for your Service.

Fort William
24th December 1763.
[Triplicate]

I am with the greatest Respect
Honourable Sirs
Your most obt. humble Servant
Henry Van Sittart

NOTES

NOTES

LETTERS FROM COURT

No. 1—16 *January* 1760

1. **Lieutenant Colonel Eyre Coote**.....manner mentioned (p. 3, para 2)—Lt. Col. Eyre Coote was to attend the Board's meetings primarily for military matters, but if necessary he was to be consulted for other important matters as well.

No. 4—1 *April* 1760

1. **late repulse of the French**.....**Fort St. George** (p. 14 para 28)—Count Lally besieged Fort St. George in December 1758. The detachment under Crillon took possession of the Black Town, but the Fort proved impregnable and with the arrival of relief by sea, Lally was compelled to raise the siege.
2. **Capt. Barton's abilities** (p. 15, para 31)—Capt. James Barton was appointed Master Attendant in 1757 but arrived in India overland late in 1758 as on the way he was captured by the French. He was also appointed a member of the Fort William Board and its Select Committee, which was very much resented by other members. He died on 6 July 1759.
3. **our servants at Bencoolen** (p. 19, para 60)—The factory at Benkulen on the west coast of Sumatra was set up in 1685 to handle the flourishing pepper trade. It was shifted to a new fortified site in 1714. In 1824 it was ceded to the Dutch in exchange for Malacca by the Treaty of London.
4. **loss of Fort St. David** (p. 22, para 75)—Count Lally besieged it in May 1758. Mismanagement of stores and ammunition was largely responsible for its surrender on 2 June 1758. Lally blew up the fortifications and reduced the place to a heap of ruins. H. D. Love, *Vestiges of Old Madras*, Vol. II, p. 482.
5. **exclusive perwannah for the saltpetre** (p. 23, para 77)—Saltpetre, an important ingredient in gunpowder used to be in great demand at all the Presidencies and in England where the Company was obliged by the Charter to supply the British Government 500 tons of it annually. Clive was able to get the monopoly, so long held by Khwaja Wajid, for the Company as a reward from Mir Jafar for the assistance against rebellious chiefs in early 1758, subject to the annual payment of Rs. 15,000 and delivery of 2000 maunds to the Nawab and Rs. 10,000 to Ramnarayan, the *Naib* of Patna. The other foreign companies were to receive a specific quota at a price fixed by the Company.

6. **forces under.....Col. Forde** (p. 24, para 81) —Much against the wishes of the other members of the Board, Clive sent a detachment under Col. Forde to Vizagapatam. Col. Forde defeated the French forces under Conflans at Condore in December 1758 and captured Masulipatam the following April.
7. **Mogul's son capture of Chandernagore** (p. 24, para 82)— Prince Ali Gauhar, later known as Emperor Shah Alam II, encouraged by Mir Jafar's rebellious chiefs, invaded Bihar in 1759 and besieged Patna but was thoroughly defeated by Clive who rushed to relief. The Prince withdrew from Bihar; among his followers was Jean Law de Lauriston, Chief of French factory at Saidabad (near Cossimbazar) who left it after the capture of Chandernagore by Clive and Watson on 24 March 1757, took service under Shujaud-Daulah, and started upon a career of wandering and adventure. He also joined Shah Alam in his second expedition against Bihar in 1760, surrendered to Maj. Carnac and left India in 1762.
8. **amazing chicanery of the Nabob.....to grant by treaty** (p. 25 para 86) —According to the treaty of 1757 Mir Jafar was to grant the Company lands lying south of Calcutta. He also agreed to include those upto Bankibazar in the north as strongly recommended by Frankland who took possession of them on behalf of the Company. In addition the Company demanded Amirpur *pargana* to square off its boundaries. The Nawab already faced with acute financial difficulties objected, but afraid of losing English help in future ultimately yielded and granted them the *wadadari* or farm of that *pargana*. A. C. Roy, *Career of Mir Jafar Khan*, pp. 273-4.
9. **Phirmaund privilege** (p. 29, para 102) —Refers to the *farman* obtained by the E.I. Company from the Mughal Emperor Farrukhsiyar in 1716, by which the Company's import and export trade was exempted from duties.
10. **rotation of four Governors** (p. 32, para 118)—Messrs. William Watts, Charles Manningham, Richard Becher and J. Z. Holwell were to act in that order, as President and Governor, each for a term of four months by rotation. But considering that the Company's position in Bengal needed to be stabilised after the revolution of 1757 under Clive's leadership, the four nominees unanimously renounced their position in favour of him. Thus Clive became the sole Governor from 26 June 1758, pending orders from the Court.
11. **quick stock** (p. 38, para 138)—The term connoted the liquid assets of the Company or the net value of the stock in trade, whereas "dead stock" meant goods and other property of the Company which did not form part of the trade, such as military stores, buildings and works etc.

12. **demand on account of a French bond** (p. 41, para 156) —As the Court of Directors had limited the amount of bills of exchange to be drawn on them and fixed the rate of exchange rather low the Company's servants found it difficult to remit their large private fortunes to England, particularly after the battle of Plassey. So very often they resorted to making use of the French and Dutch Companies for this purpose. J. C. Sinha, *Economic Annals of Bengal*.
13. **Squadrons under the command of Mr. D' Ache** (p. 51, para 210) —Comte d'Ache appointed commander of French naval forces for the East Indies in 1757 arrived on the Coromandel Coast in April 1758. He was defeated by Admiral Pocock off Negapatam as well as Tranquebar. Though Lally requested him for help in the attack on Madras, he refused and sailed for the Isle of France. There he appropriated the money intended for Pondicherry, refitted his fleet and arrived back in Indian waters in September 1759. He was once again beaten by Pocock off Fort St. David, to which reference has been made here, went to Pondicherry to deliver supplies and despite Lally's protests, left for the Isle of France never to return. G. B. Malleson, *History of the French in India*, pp. 503, 510-1, 531-2, 536, 541, 554, 557.

No. 5—5 November 1760

1. **George the Third.....King of Great Britain, France and Ireland** (p. 53, para 1) —The British King, besides being King of Great Britain and Ireland, was also titular King of France from Edward III to George III who discontinued the style in 1801. A. B. Keith, *Constitutional Law*, p. 127.

No. 6—31 December 1760

1. **Gombrun Market** (p. 58, para 20) —Old name in European documents for modern Bandar Abbas or Abbasi in the Persian Gulf. Shah Abbas after expelling the Portuguese with E. I. Company's aid and destroying the island city of Hormuz chose the little fishing village of Gombrun for diverting the trade and population of Hormuz and renamed it as Bandar Abbas. The Company's factory there, set up in 1625, did not flourish much owing to Anglo-Dutch rivalry. In 1759 it was attacked and burnt by the French under Count D'Estaing. Though later restored, it was found to be unprofitable and was withdrawn to Basra in 1763. A. T. Wilson *The Persian Gulf*, pp. 11, 140-1, 151-2, 177-8, 188-9.
2. **Admiral Steevens** (p. 68, para 70) —Admiral Charles Steevens, second in command of H.M. Squadron in the East Indies arrived in India in the beginning of 1758. The Court appreciated his services in the naval operations against the French on the Coromandel Coast by passing a resolution on 20th June 1759. After

Pocock's departure in 1760 he became the naval C. in C. and co-operated with Coote in capturing Pondicherry. He died the following year.

3. **Chevalier otherways Count Crillon** (p. 68, para 75) —Chevalier de Crillon, descendant of an aristocratic family, was one of the chief lieutenants of Lally. In the French attack on Madras he succeeded in occupying the Black Town, but was thwarted by Bussy's non-cooperation in further moves. He also played an important part in bringing back to duty mutinous French soldiers at Wandiwash. Later he led a successful expedition to Srirangam. Malleison, *op. cit.*, pp. 510, 537, 560, 561.

No. 8—13 March 1761

1. **Seats throwing obstacles.....interfering with their interest** (p. 77, para 36) —The difficulties encountered by the Company in having their currency accepted by the public at large can be deduced from the refusal of Charles Douglas, a free merchant under the Company's protection, to accept the payment of his bond in Calcutta *sikkas*. His reason was that "his fortune would be daily exposed to being curtailed from 5 to 10 per cent at the pleasure of Jagat Seth who has the sole management of the current money of the country and can always make it fluctuate in such a manner as he sees convenient for his purpose". *Murshidabad District Gazetteer*, pp. 61-2.
2. **dismal consequences.....with Mahmud Ally Cawn** (p. 79, para 44)—The war with the French in the Carnatic though financed by the Company was actually at the expense of Muhammad Ali of Arcot with the result that by 1761 he owed a debt of 2 million pagodas to the Company.
3. **unhappy fate of Mr. Southby....massacred there by the Burmars [Burmese]** (p. 80, para 48) —To check French designs on Burma the Company occupied Negrais (modern Haingyyi Island) at the mouth of the Bassein river, in 1753. King Alaungpaya formally ceded it in 1757 in return for help against his enemies. Its climate was unhealthy, there was little prospect of profitable trade, and the Company contemplated its abandonment. Meanwhile the King suspected the British of helping the Mons, his inveterate enemies, and massacred all its inhabitants including the Chief Capt. W. H. Southby. The settlement was completely destroyed on 5 October 1759. D.G.E. Hall, *Burma*, pp. 80-6.
4. **Nabob's grant to him of the annual rent** (p. 81, para 54) —For services rendered in establishing peace in Bihar in 1759, Mir Jafar granted to Clive the annual quit-rent of 24-Parganas which he had earlier ceded to the Company. It amounted to £ 30,000

a year; the acceptance of this so-called *jagir* later involved Clive in acrimonious debate with the Directors. G.W. Forrest, *Life of Lord Clive*, Vol. II, pp. 139-46.

5. **Mr. Scrafton** (p. 94, para 111) — Luke Scrafton, assistant and later member of Council at Dacca was deputed to Sirajud-Daulah in 1757 for negotiations. He played an important role in dealings with Mir Jafar too, and was later appointed Resident at Murshidabad. He was also a member of the Fort William Board. In 1769 he was appointed one of the 3 Commissioners for superintending the Company's affairs in India, but was lost at sea along with others on the *Aurora*. His *Reflections on the Government of Indostan* published in 1763 is a valuable contemporary account.

6. **diamonds are brought home....without having been registered** (p. 99, para 140) — For the Company's servants the only legitimate way of remitting private fortunes to England was either to draw bills on the E.I. or foreign companies or to send diamonds on which duty had to be paid. To evade duty the servants often sought to send the diamonds clandestinely. Even Clive was charged with it though he strongly refuted it. J. C. Sinha, *op. cit.*

No. 9—6 May 1761

1. **Empress Queen, whose viewscannot be easily terminated** (p. 102, para 12) — At the beginning of 1761 both Austria and France were anxious for peace but Tsarina Elizabeth of Russia insisted on 'the essential and permanent crippling of the King of Prussia' prior to any pacific overtures. She firmly opposed a truce though not averse from a peace congress sitting while the war still went on. *Cambridge Modern History*, Vol. VI, p. 327.

2. **Count D'Estaing** (p. 104, para 17) — Comte d'Estaing, one of the principal officers of Lally, arrived in India at the beginning of 1758. He took part in the capture of Gudaḷur and Devikota; he was taken prisoner during the French attack on Fort St. George, but was released on parole. While ostensibly proceeding to Europe via Basra he attacked the Company's factory at Bandar Abbas in the Persian Gulf. He was afterwards exchanged for the civilians captured there. Later he took part in the French expedition to America. Malleon, *op. cit.*, pp. 516, 522, 537; Wilson, *op. cit.*, p. 177; S. P. Sen, *The French in India*, p. 227.

No. 10—19 June 1761

1. **Pondicherry has not been materially relieved** (p. 107, para 7) — After his defeat at Wandiwash in Jan. 1760 Lally withdrew to Pondicherry. The town was blockaded by the English so successfully that Lally remarked, "Pondicherry without money, without ships, and without even provisions, might be given up for lost". However

in spite of the non-co-operation of [the Council there he desperately tried to prolong the defence till the arrival of d'Ache whose squadron was daily expected. But d'Ache was ordered by the French Govt. to remain at Bourbon in view of an expected attack upon it. No advantage was taken of a storm in December which scattered the English squadron lying in the roads. Finally when all supplies were exhausted, Pondicherry surrendered on 16th January 1761. Malleon, *op. cit.*, pp. 564-78.

No. 11—30 September 1761

1. in possession of Surat with its revenues (p. 112, para 16)—

Among the perquisites of the Sidi of Janjira were included a portion of the revenues of Surat amounting to £ 36,000 *per annum* for performing the duties of the office of the Mughal Admiral. The town of Surat was actually governed by a Nawab appointed by the Mughal emperor. There were constant disputes between the two, further aggravated by the attempts of the Marathas and the Company to exercise control over Surat the revenues of which both coveted. In 1759 by affording naval assistance to the Nawab, the Company secured by treaty the office of the Mughal Admiral along with its perquisites. The treaty was later confirmed by the Mughal emperor. C. R. Low, *History of Indian Navy*, Vol. I, pp. 144-51; G. S. Sardesai, *New History of the Marathas*, Vol. II, p. 314.

2. a Nephew of the Shawzada to oppose him (p. 117, para 2) —

Possibly this is a reference to Shah Jahan II, grandson of Kambaksh (Aurangzeb's youngest son) who was set up as an emperor for 9 months by Imad-ul-mulk Ghaziud-Din, the Vazir, after murdering Emperor Alamgir II. Jadunath Sarkar, *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. II, p. 178.

No. 12—23 December 1761

1. disability our late servants upon the West Coast may be under

(p. 122, para 18)—The 'disability' of the Company's servants on the west coast of Sumatra was due to the French capture of British settlements there. See para 16 of the Court's letter dated 6 May 1761 in this connection. The settlements were restored to the Company by the Treaty of Paris, 1763.

No. 14—19 February 1762

1. F. Maund (p. 132, para 13) —Factory maund. Factory weights were used by the English factories in Bengal, to save calculation in the home remittances of produce, 3 factory maunds being almost equal to 2 hundredweights avoirdupois. Some Calcutta merchants and even the British Govt. continued to use them till late in the 19th century. Rules for converting factory weights into standard weights are given in *Useful Tables added to Essays on Indian Antiquities* by Prinsep and Thomas, Vol. II, pp. 318-9.

2. **King of the Burmars** (p. 137, para 34) —King Alaungpaya died in May 1760 and was succeeded by his son Naungdawgyi (1760-63). Capt. Walter Alves was deputed to him by the Company to demand the punishment of the perpetrators of the Negrais massacre. He refused to consider it but being in need of munitions on account of constant rebellions, urged the resumption of trade relations. However, as Burma trade did not pay and there was no fear of revival of the French influence there the Company's earlier decision to sever all relations with Burma was confirmed, and Capt. Alves effected complete evacuation by 1762. Hall, *op. cit.*, pp. 87-8.
3. **Ensign Stable's . . . Gallant behaviour against the Barackpore Rajah** (p. 148, para 99) —The rajah of Kharagpur (wrongly mentioned here as Barackpore), a rebellious *zamindar* in Monghyr district, plundered some valuables of Miran. Ensign John Stables who was directed to punish him promptly reduced the rajah's palace to ashes. It was much appreciated by Col. Caillaud and the Fort William Board. Stables also distinguished himself later in the battle of Buxar. *Select Committee Proceedings*, 1760, pp. 151, 175-6; *Secret Proceedings*, 1764, Vol. 2A, p. 657; Vol. 19, p. 571.

No. 23—9 March 1763

1. **Sunnuds being sent by the King to the Nabob for the three Provinces** (p. 189, para 54) —Shah Alam was not satisfied with Rs. 4 lakhs offered by Mir Qasim for the *sanads* of Subahdari of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. Mir Qasim accused Col. Coote and Maj. Carnac of deliberately thwarting him in order to obtain the *Diwani* for the Company. When called to Calcutta Coote and Carnac explained that Shah Alam on his own had offered the *Diwani* to the Company. Thereupon Vansittart assured Mir Qasim that the Company would not deviate from their treaty with him. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. I.
2. **Mr. Van Staden's demands** (p. 190, para 57) —De Van Staaden, an attorney of Adrian Bisdorn, Dutch Director of Chinsura, had requested that his claim to compensation for the loss of some opium chests belonging to him during the capture of Calcutta be properly represented to the Court of Directors. *Press List of Ancient Documents obtained from the India Office*, Vol. VI, p. 38.
3. **present to the King of Pegue** (p. 190, para 60) —It was actually meant for the Burmese King Naungdawgyi but was received on his behalf by the Viceroy of Pegu, a near relation of the King. Michael Symes, *An account of an Embassy to the Kingdom of Ava*, pp. 58, 60, 62.

No. 24—9 March 1763

1. **Mr. Dupleix in his Memoir** (p. 207, para 3) —This [refers to *Memoire pour Le Sieur Dupleix contre la Compagnie des Indes* (Memorandum

from Dupleix against the French East India Company) published in 1759 by Dupleix in vindication of his policy during his governorship of Pondicherry. On p. 213 of the publication are listed French possessions in India before the War of Austrian Succession, and the subsequent pages give in detail territorial acquisitions made thereafter and the revenues thereof.

2. **Mustaferzing** (p.207, para 4) —Muzaffar Jang, grandson of Nizam-ul-Mulk. When Nasir Jang his uncle and *Subahdar* of the Deccan was killed in a battle in December 1750, he became the *Subahdar* with the help of Dupleix and Chanda Sahib the aspirant to the throne of the Carnatic. He then confirmed the territorial grants made to the French, which included, besides lands and villages around Karikal, Masulipatam and the island of Divy. He was murdered by his dissatisfied chieftains in February 1751.
3. **four Provinces Granted them by Salabat Zing** (p.207, para 4)—Salabat Jang, brother of Nasir Jang and uncle of Muzaffar Jang became the *Subahdar* of the Deccan on the latter's murder in 1751. Afraid of the treacheries of the court, the hostility of the Marathas and the rivalry of his brothers he leaned heavily on the support of Bussy and granted him in 1753, four of the Northern Sarkars viz. Rajahmundry, Chicacole, Ellore and Guntoor, for maintenance of the French troops. He ceded the same Sarkars to the English after Col. Forde's victory over the French at Masulipatam in 1759. H. Dodwell, *Dupleix and Clive*, pp. 86, 91, 101.

No. 28—27 April 1763, *Enclosure*

1. **the War the Company has . . . and the Insurgents in Ceylon** (p.221) —While the Dutch East India Company controlled the coastal towns and the cinnamon regions of Ceylon, the King of Kandy reigned supreme in the mountainous interior and commanded allegiance from the noblemen of the plains. In 1760-61, aggrieved by the Dutch refusal of freedom of trade from his last remaining ports of Chilaw and Puttalam, King Kirtisri openly joined the rising of the cinnamon-peelers (known as Chalias) whom he had secretly encouraged earlier against the Dutch. The English tried to fish in troubled waters by sending a mission to Kandy under John Pybus in 1762 but failed, and the Dutch consolidated their position by 1766. *Cambridge History of India*, Vol. V, pp. 31, 54-5, 400-1.

No. 29—13 May 1763

1. **provinces granted us by Cossim Ally Cawn** (p.222, para 7) — Districts of Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong. On the outbreak of war with the Company Mir Qasim demanded their restitution together with their rent for 3 years. Nandalal Chatterjee, *Mir Qasim*, p. 237.

No. 31—30 December 1763

1. **an Indulto** (p. 237, para 53)—License-duty; derived from Spanish and Portuguese *indulto* meaning exemption, privilege, license; historically, a duty paid to the King of Spain or Portugal on imported goods.
2. **The Dutch Commissaries.....none of the Points in dispute have been adjusted** (p. 237, para 54)—The points in dispute were: (i) the purpose of the armament sent to Bengal from Batavia in June 1759, (ii) British monopoly in saltpetre and its effect on Dutch freedom of trade and (iii) mutual recriminations between the *gumasktas* of both companies respecting cloth investment. Original manuscript papers relating to these negotiations are available with the Goethals Indian Library, St. Xavier's College, Calcutta. *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Vol.V, pp. 104-18.

LETTERS TO COURT

No. 1—1 January 1760

1. **Monsieur Moracin ..at Gangam in a most distress'd condition** (p. 249) —Leon Moracin, French agent at Masulipatam, was placed by Bussy in charge of Northern Sarkars ceded by Salabat Jang in 1754. Along with Bussy he too was recalled by Lally in 1758. In 1759-60, he was ordered to relieve French commander Conflans besieged at Masulipatam by Col. Forde. But he arrived too late, and finding the place already captured proceeded to Ganjam. Malleson, *op. cit.*, pp. 381, 505, 546, 550.
2. **Capt. Fischer** (p. 249) —Christian Fischer, a Swiss national, was in Danish service but joined the Madras army in 1753. In the expedition to Northern Sarkars in 1758-59 he led the detachment which stormed Masulipatam. He also participated in war with Shah Alam in 1760. On account of his nationality he was superseded and given only a brevet rank throughout his career. Maj. V. C. P. Hodson, *List of Officers of Bengal Army*, part II, p. 183; *Public Letter to Court*, 16 Jan. 1761, para 143.

No. 4—3 February 1760

1. **Perrin's Gardens** (p. 252, para 6) —Perrin's Garden used to be a sort of exclusive promenade for the Company's servants at Calcutta. Being much out of repairs it was sold to Mr. Holwell in 1752. Presumably there was some arrangement with him whereby the Company could use it for its gunpowder factory. J. Long, *Selections from Unpublished Records relating to Bengal*, Vol. I, p. 37.
2. **assistance receiv'd from...Fultah** (p. 253, para 13) —On Sirajud-Daulah's attack of Calcutta in June 1756, Governor Drake, many members of the Board and several others deserted Fort William

and took refuge at Falta, a nearby village on the Hooghly. But they were hardly in a position to help Clive or Watson as they had no arms, little provisions and much sickness. Even Maj. Kilpatrick's detachment sent from Madras immediately on the outbreak of hostilities, became unfit for duty owing to sickness. S.C. Hill, *Bengal in 1756-57*, Vol. I, pp. cix-cx, cxiii, cxxvii-viii; Capt. A. Broome, *History of the Rise and Progress of the Bengal Army*, Vol. I, pp. 73, 79.

3. **Commissioners of Restitution** (p. 254, para 20) —By the treaty dated 12 February 1757 Mir Jafar agreed to give 77 lakhs of rupees as compensation "for the effects plundered" from the inhabitants of Calcutta during its capture by Sirajud-Daulah. The distribution was done by the Fort William Board through officials who verified the claims of lost property and made suitable disbursements. These officials were known as Commissioners of Restitution.
4. **Subah's late conduct...with the Dutch** (p. 255, para 28) —This view that Mir Jafar secretly encouraged the arrival of the Dutch fleet in the Hooghly in 1759, though supported by Warren Hastings (then Resident at Murshidabad) in his letter to Clive dt. 12 Nov. 1759, by Holwell in his *Memorial* and Jean Law in his *Memoire*, seems to be an afterthought on the part of the Board. For, in their earlier letter to Court dt. 22 Oct. 1759 they informed that Mir Jafar was not aware of Dutch activities. Roy, *op. cit.*, pp. 183-5; K.K. Datta, *The Dutch in Bengal and Bihar, 1740-1825 A.D.*, pp. 52-4; *F.W.-I.H.C.*, Vol. II, p. 433.
5. **Affair of Kissendas** (p. 256, para 31) —Rajballabh, the *diwan* of Dacca, apprehending troubles with Sirajud-Daulah, sent his son Krishna Das to Calcutta with treasure and secured English asylum. Refusal to surrender him to Sirajud-Daulah gave rise to reports that this was owing to bribes received by certain members of the Board. The Court ordered an enquiry but Holwell the suspected member, Krishnadas, as well as his father, all denied the allegation. Hill, *op. cit.*, vol. I, pp. xiv-xlvi, 207, 279; *F.W.-I.H.C.*, Vol. II, pp. xlii, 157, 452-3, 481.
6. **Sum stipulated by the Rajah for the Payment of the Troops** (p. 259, para 34) —Refers to Anandraj I Gajapati, Raja of Vizianagaram who had joined Col. Forde's expedition against the French in the Northern Sarkars. He had agreed to pay Rs. 56,000 per month for the field expenses of the Company's army. *Select Committee Proceedings*, 15 January 1759.
7. **the Dutch were involv'd in great troubles with the Mallays** (p. 259, para 35) —In 1755 the Sultan of Johore (a Malayan state) secured the assistance of the Dutch at Malacca, to counter the domination of the Bugis, a tribe originally of Malay stock but regarded

by the Malaysians as intruders. This alliance led to open warfare between the Dutch and the Bugis. In 1758 the Bugis concluded peace by acknowledging the sovereignty of the Johore Sultan and confirming Dutch claims of monopoly in tin trade. But on the death of the Johore Sultan in 1760 they regained effective control. Presumably the reference is to this Dutch-Bugis contest for power in Malaysian states. J. Kennedy, *A History of Malaya*, pp. 54, 64.

No. 6—3 March 1760

1. **The Dutch...late Treaty concluded with the Nabob** (p. 262, para 9)—On 28th November 1759 Mir Jafar's son Miran marched against the Dutch. Through Clive's intervention, however, an agreement was effected whereby : (i) the Dutch were never to conspire for war, enlist troops, or raise fortifications, (ii) were to retain only 125 European soldiers for their factories and (iii) were to send away their ships and remaining troops immediately. Violation of any of the terms could subject them to total expulsion. This treaty was ratified on 5th December 1759. Datta, *op. cit.*, pp. 65-6; Roy, *op. cit.*, pp. 192-3.
2. **The Morattoes...advanced under the Command of Soobabut from Oriza into this Province** (p. 262, para 10)—Shivaram Bhat Sathe was appointed Maratha Governor of Orissa by Raja Janoji Bhonsle of Nagpur in 1756. By an agreement in 1751 Aliwardi Khan was to pay *chauth* and Shivaram Bhat advanced to Midnapore to demand it but had to retire owing to the presence of the English army. In 1760 when the English acquired Midnapore district bordering on the Maratha province of Orissa there were clashes between the Marathas and the Company. Shivaram Bhat once again invaded Midnapore in 1761, but was unsuccessful. While the new Nawab Mir Qasim refused to pay *chauth* he also rejected English proposals for invading Orissa. In 1763 Shivaram Bhat wanted to support him against the Company, but could not do so owing to Bhonsle's opposition. The English succeeded in getting him dismissed by the Bhonsle in 1764. Harekrushna Mahtab, *History of Orissa*, Vol. II, pp. 412-5; *I.H. R.C. Proceedings*, Vol. XXXVI, pt. II, pp. 117-9; Roy, *op. cit.*, 1 p. 156-61.

No. 9 —12 November 1760

1. **I soon concluded the Treaty** (p. 273, para 4)—In April 1760 Mir Jafar accused the Dutch of hostile designs, invested their factory at Cossimbazar and demanded 50 lakhs of rupees. He was not ready to accept 71 tons of gold offered by the Dutch. Finally Vansittart intervened and a new treaty consisting of 11 articles was concluded on 23 Aug. 1760. It reaffirmed the treaty of Dec. 1759 and additionally provided for the inspection of Dutch military stores and men at Chinsura and other factories; also Dutch ships were not

to come up beyond Kalpi, Falta or Mayapore. Mir Jafar on his part agreed to protect Dutch trade, to continue their mint privileges, to stop their tribute in respect of saltpetre and finally, not to ask for any new payments. *Selett Committee Proceedings*, 25 August 1760; Datta, *op. cit.*, pp. 71-5; Roy, *op. cit.*, pp. 196-9.

No. 11—12 January 1761

1. **strongly supported by Comdar Cawn, Pulwansing** (p. 276, para 5)—Kamgar Khan, an Afghan of Main clan and *zamindar* of Narhat-Semai in Gaya Dist. had been arrested by Mir Jafar for his rebellious conduct. To avenge this humiliation he supported Shah Alam in his repeated invasions of Bihar (1759-61). He failed, however, in his attempt on Murshidabad, was defeated by Col. Champion and dismissed from Shah Alam's service in 1761. Under English pressure Mir Qasim tried to subjugate him but decided to enlist his undoubted military ability and experience against the English in 1763. He was to make incursions into Birbhum, but on hearing of Mir Qasim's defeat at Udhua Nala he retired to his *zamindari*. He died in 1764. Gholam Hossein Khan, *Seir Mutaqherin*, Vol. II, pp. 264, 332, 345-6, 405, 492-5; Sarkar, *op. cit.*, II, pp. 537, 541, 542-3; P.C. Roy Chaudhury, *Gaya District Gazetteer*, pp. 40-2.

Raja Pahlwan Singh, a powerful *zamindar* of Shahabad district had also defied Mir Jafar, but was reconciled to him by Clive in 1758. The following year, however, suspecting Mir Jafar's intentions he joined Shah Alam's first invasion of Bihar, and was again brought to terms by Clive. In 1762 driven out by Mir Qasim he took refuge in Oudh. Gholam Hossein, *op. cit.* II, pp. 320, 329-30, 425; Roy, *op. cit.*, pp. 135-6.

No. 13—16 January 1761

1. **Major Yorke,.....against the Bierboon Rajah** (p. 298, para 103)—Asaduz-zaman Khan, a powerful *zamindar* of Birbhum, was against Mir Jafar's deposition and became particularly hostile when the new Nawab Mir Qasim demanded from him a special contribution in addition to the usual revenue. To chastise him Mir Qasim sent a force under Muhammad Khan and Gurgin Khan, but the ill-organised troops of the Nawab could not succeed against the guerilla tactics employed by the *Zamindar*. Finally it was Maj. Martin Yorke who brought him to terms. Gholam Hossein, *op. cit.*, II, pp. 393-6; *C.P.C.*, I, pp. 37, 40, 56.
2. **Moors Language** (p. 304, para 131) —Term by which Hindustani language was commonly known in the 18th century. For instance, Capt. George Hadley's grammar of Hindustani published in 1772 bore the title, 'Grammatical Remarks on the Practical and Vulgar Dialect of the Indostan language commonly called Moors with a Vocabulary [...] English and Moors'. Henry Yule and A.C. Burnell, *Hobson-Jobson*.

No. 21—12 November 1761

1. **Ragebullab** (p. 365, para 59)—A little later Rajballabh had trouble with Ellis, Chief of Patna factory when the latter, without permission, sent a party of sepoys to search European deserters reported to be hiding in Monghyr fort. Shortly afterwards Mir Qasim arrested him for failing to pay Rs. 40 lakhs, and confiscated his property. He along with many other prisoners, was put to death by drowning by Mir Qasim on his flight from Monghyr. *C.P.C.*, I, pp. 152, 159, 168, 260; Gholam Hossein, *op. cit.*, II, pp. 431, 492.

No. 31—30 October 1762

1. **Byaram** (p. 454, para 114)—Biararam, an agent of the Company had earlier been found to be acting as a sort of *vakil* to the Nawab on behalf of many other persons. He had applied to the Nawab for the grant of opium monopoly to the English without permission from the President and Council. He was believed to have belonged to Nandakumar's party and was imprisoned for subversive activities. *C.P.C.*, I, pp. 66, 84, 173.

No. 32—13 December 1762

1. **Mahomed Aly** (p. 462, para 12)—Muhammad Ali Beg, *Faujdar* of Dacca. On account of constant complaints of the English against him Mir Qasim sent for him and promised to punish him if found guilty. Meanwhile he was seized by the English and sent to Calcutta. Strangely enough, he was presented with a *khilat* there, possibly to please Mir Jafar, the newly appointed Nawab. Mir Jafar, however, removed him from the charge of Dacca and gave it to Reza Khan. *C.P.C.*, I, pp. 205, 213, 228, 231-2.

No. 34—14 February 1763

1. **Shaw Aulum and Shuja Dowla...conquests they made last year upon the Morattas** (p. 473, para 27)—Taking advantage of the defenceless state of Bundelkhand and north Malwa where the Maratha dominion had considerably weakened following their disaster at Panipat, Shah Alam led by Shujaud-Daulah, was able to re-establish his rule there in 1762. Sarkar, *op. cit.*, II, pp. 543-4.

No. 35—18 April 1763

1. **Nabo[b's] Phousdar at Ranganamatty** (p. 482, para 10)—Sayyid Jalal Bukhari. He was sent to Mir Qasim at Monghyr and his *diwan* was asked to officiate in the meanwhile. *C.P.C.*, I, pp. 196-7, 216.
2. **Syed Buddle Cawn** (p. 483, para 10)—Sayyid Badal Khan placed before the Board Muhammad Ali Beg's orders in original. The Board appears to have absolved him, for shortly afterwards he became *Faujdar* of Hooghly. *C.P.C.*, I, pp. 205, 231.

3. **Resolutions relative to the Burbunna Gate and Gunge** (pp. 483-4, para 13)—Barhanna gate, a small wicket between the western gate and the river side of Patna and conveniently situated for the traffic of the factory servants had been shut up on Mir Qasim's orders. Ellis, Chief of Patna factory, had always protested against its closure though Vansittart had agreed to it. Now the majority in the Board resolved to ask the Nawab to open the gate. As regards the *ganj*, a grain-market in Colonelganj, Patna, which had grown up without any sanction from the Company or the Nawab, the Board unanimously approved of its abolition. H. Vansittart, *Narrative of the Transactions in Bengal*, Vol. II, pp. 174-6, 289-308.
4. **Naib at Tadjipore** (p. 487, para 27)—Akbar Ali, *naib* of Tajpur in Purnea district. Ellis refused to release him without orders from the Board. In retaliation Mir Qasim sent a body of troops and the Company's *gumashta* at Tajpur was seized, though he was later released. *C.P.C.*, I, pp. 199-200, 206; Vansittart, *op. cit.*, III, pp. 35-6-

No. 37—18 April 1763

1. **The Injury done me by Mr. Batson...in a particular manner** (p. 504, para 2)—Stanlake Batson accused Vansittart of having prior knowledge of the contents of the alleged correspondence between Mir Qasim and Khwaja Petruse, and challenged him to deny it on oath. Though Vansittart took the oath he felt deeply offended, and recorded that it was 'a very improper method of proceeding, that any member of the Board should be put to his oath on any occasion, excepting where the law requires it, and that the word of every member of the Board should be regarded as an oath.' H. Vansittart-, *Original Papers relative to the Disturbances in Bengal*, Vol. II, pp. 176-7.

No. 39—2 May 1763

1. **address from the Nabob...made a translation** (p. 506, para 1)—See No. 38, dated 21st April 1763 in *Translations of Persian Letters Received*, Jan.-Sept. 1763, pp. 54-9. Therein Mir Qasim briefly explains how he became the Nawab, and how he fulfilled his financial obligations, accuses Company's servants of violating his agreement with Vansittart regarding private inland trade and seeks justice from the Court of Directors.

No. 42—29 September 1763

1. **the Governor** (p. 523, para 28)—Mir Muhammad Mahdi Khan. In the beginning of 1763 Mir Qasim recalled him from command of troops at Shahabad and appointed him Governor of Patna in place of Raja Naubat Rai whom he found unable to cope with a person like Ellis. Gholam Hossein, *op. cit.*, II, p. 449.

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